

BlogBooker

From Blog to Book.

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Chapter 1

2012

1.1 October

Reader Under the Spotlight - Deborah (2012-10-01 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Today I would like to introduce you to Deborah.

Hello All! I'm Deborah, a 38 year-old professional (in civil service) living in the U.S. I have a wonderful husband (we just celebrated our 11-year anniversary), two fabulous young children - a son and daughter, and two dogs: a German Shepherd Dog and a Mastiff.

I stumbled upon Filofaxy last year and became immediately infatuated! So now I divide my free time between reading, painting, reading Filofaxy, and blogging. I blog at [\[2\]Thoughts and Exploration](#)

On my blog I write about an assortment of things, including Filofaxes. I enjoy writing about my Fax because I just love it! I actually have to make an effort to keep myself from dominating my blog with posts on my two main obsessions - Filofaxes and purses.

I love reading Filofaxy and others' blogs because it gives me a lot of ideas and inspiration. My husband thinks I'm nuts...if I am, at least I'm a happy nut!

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

I believe I bought my first Filofax in June of 2011. I was fortunate enough to have a store near me that carries a few so I spent an unhealthy amount of time looking at them, touching them, trying them out in my purse (with the store attendant's permission of course!). Over an hour later and a quick walk over to Franklin Covey – also in the same mall – I decided on a personal black Classic.

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

I was introduced to Franklin Covey in 2001 and was immediately hooked. Since then it was only FC for me in my planner choice...until June 2011.

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

Without a doubt my all-time favorite planner – the one that has no equal – is my personal buttercup ostrich. I'm so melodramatic! Seriously, I really feel like it has no equal...well, maybe the ostrich in red. Would love to add that to my collection.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I have 12. So I guess I've been averaging one Filofax per month. I've sold two so that ruins my average but heck...I'm sticking with 1 per month. I own a pocket Kendal, 9 personals (Classic, Malden, Finsbury, Kendal, Amazon, Holborn, Deco x2, Ostrich), and 2 A5s (Classic and Aston).

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I have two that I use all the time. I carry my personal ostrich with me everywhere. If it's not in my hand, it's in my purse or on my desk. If I could take it to bed with me without my husband calling the guys in white with the straightjacket, I'd do it. It holds all of the stuff that I use everyday including my calendar, cards, medical info, children's info, blog info, numbers, etc.

I also am currently using my Aston A5 as my work binder. It does not have a calendar in it but instead is full of notepaper, business card holders, to do lists, and the A to Z tabs where I file the notes that I take during my meetings. I love this system!

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

I know I'm only going to repeat things that others have said but I love the versatility. I love being able to personalize and organize a gorgeous binder with all of the information that I need so that I can be more organized and productive.

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

It would be an Ostrich with even more pockets, pockets, pockets! It would have the Holborn/Ostrich pockets but it would also have pockets on the outside front and back cover. And I would be able to fill this beauty with a plethora of fabulous inserts of all different colors, designs, and formats.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

I carry my personal either in my hand or in my purse. My A5 normally stays locked up at work. If I need to bring it home, I carry it in my briefcase.

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

I'm lucky enough to own the one that I like the most – the Ostrich. If I had to pick one that I didn't yet own I would probably pick the Osterley. It looks so lovely and luxurious! It still isn't enough to tempt me away from my current binder though so I won't be taking the plunge.

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

The most I've spent was for the Ostrich, which I was able to find at a very generously discounted price from [3]Pens and Leather. It still came in at around \$440 but it was worth it! I'm going to grow old with this binder and then I'll give it to my daughter!

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

The people! The Philofaxy community is incredible. I've "met" some wonderful people and the community is always so willing to help answer questions and give tips and suggestions. The people make Philofaxy what it is – a fantastic online community!

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

This is a tough one! I can't really think of something substantive that I dislike. Grasping for straws I guess I would say that I don't like the current format of the "Pages" links (on the left). I liked it better when these were running along the top. [Steve: Now fixed....]

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

An oldie but a goodie. This is an album that I listened to in my teen years. George Winston's December. *Thank you Deborah for agreeing to go under the spotlight.*

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-7PkZK0srUJg/UGWId-kBFYI/AAAAAAAAANGY/1tFPHHhcUxc/s1600/IMG_0258.jpg

2. <http://www.thoughtsandexploration.com/>

3. <http://www.pensandleather.com/>

WeirdRockStar (2012-10-01 01:31:12)

Truly, that Ostrich is gooooregeous! I actually went to your blog to see the delight in action.

Nice to see that the thing is so well used and clearly loved.

Ling (2012-10-01 03:01:15)

Your Ostrich is so beautiful. I couldn't commit to one planner, but if I did, I would want one too. Do you also use it as your wallet?

Cloudberry (2012-10-01 04:19:49)

Thank you for introducing me to Ostrich - I love Red and would like to have a Buttercup too!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-01 05:05:32)

Thanks Deborah - I love your blog as well!

Patricia (2012-10-01 08:00:24)

Deborah, I have slept with my grey Malden. Well you never know when you might need it!!

DEM (2012-10-01 11:04:15)

Thank you, WierdRockStar. It is definitely well loved and used! And thanks for following my blog!!!

DEM (2012-10-01 11:07:41)

Thanks, Ling. It is so fantastic that any desire to switch to another is completely gone. I have used it as my wallet as well and it has worked perfectly for that but since I sometimes leave it on my desk, unattended, I didn't want to leave my \$ and cards in it...so I stopped using it as a wallet.

DEM (2012-10-01 11:08:49)

I'm so glad that you found Red! Now I want to add a red to my collection! Ugh!

DEM (2012-10-01 11:10:16)

Thank you, Alison! Your comment has made me a very happy gal! I'm glad that you enjoy my blog.

DEM (2012-10-01 11:13:13)

Very logical and practical justification, Patricia. One could make the argument that I have been irresponsible in not taking it to bed with me!

I could have need for it in the middle of the night! ;-)

Lime Tree (2012-10-01 11:41:55)

Very nice interview Debrah, nice to get to know you better :)

I had slept with my Baroque as well! hehehe

Barbara (2012-10-01 15:49:17)

Deborah, When you get a few years older you'll have the perfect excuse to sleep next to Buttercup....over 50 if you don't write it down, you don't remember it! :)

Love your photos of Buttercup.

DEM (2012-10-01 18:46:40)

Thank you, Lime Tree! Well, that settles it...Buttercup will stop sleeping in my purse. until hubby finds out...lol

DEM (2012-10-01 18:48:29)

I like that, Barbara! And I'm glad that you like the Buttercup photos. You should see the looks I get from my husband when I do a Buttercup photo shoot!

Leah Greentree (2012-10-01 22:18:54)

I want a Buttercup Ostrich

DEM (2012-10-01 23:56:59)

:-) I'm looking forward to putting it into the small classic briefcase from SBL! Shouldn't you get a Buttercup for your bag too??? ;-0

baggirl (2012-10-02 12:26:46)

Hi Deborah, I'm completely with you on the filofax/purse obsession.... (and I keep my filofax right beside my bed, to the amused disgust of my husband!) Is the Ostrich a soft leather? It looks rough, but I'd love to know how it feels as that's one of my main criteria when I choose a filo or purse.

DEM (2012-10-02 15:50:04)

Hello, baggirl. Hard obsessions, aren't they?

The leather is soft and textured. I love touching it; very unique. I did a review of the binder here on Philofaxy. If you do a search for Ostrich it should pull it up, or if you select the ostrich label you should find it there.

baggirl (2012-10-02 17:43:55)

Thanks - I will check out your review! Sometimes I just have to remind myself that my obsessions could be worse: drink or cars or something, and also put up with my husband shaking his head at my latest "fix"! I think the Ostrich sounds lovely but i am saved from complete temptation by the fact that it isn't available as a mini..... but maybe I could get a pocket...

DEM (2012-10-02 17:56:52)

smiling an evil enabling smile! Pens and Leather does carry it in pocket.

Leah Greentree (2012-10-04 21:19:03)

Absolutely! :) What color BC are you getting?

DEM (2012-10-04 23:09:39)

Carbon Black!

A glimpse in to the future (2012-10-01 09:00) - Steve Morton

I was summoned to a meeting last week whilst I was in London after this [1]newspaper article had been published. On entering the conference room the man at the top of the table called me over and requested that I sat next to his team of people.

'Mr Morton, thank you for joining us, we need your help'

The other people on the opposite side of the table looked familiar from somewhere although at the time I'm not sure where, they didn't look too happy either.

Discussions were taking place about the terms of a sale, then I realised what was being sold.... Filofax Letts Group. The team I had been asked to sit with were the potential buyers the French company.....

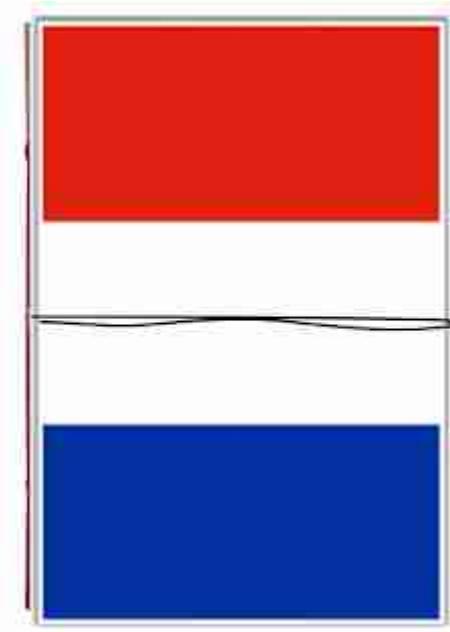
I sat there trying to take in what was going on, different people were asked to give presentations and the Frenchman was scribbling frantically in a very nice looking note book with his fountain pen. Contrastingly the English man on the other side of the table was using a similar pen in his Filofax, but the ink seemed to be spreading on the paper not very nice at all.

Oh how I wanted to say to him... we have been telling Filofax UK about that issue for years but they would never listen... but I thought no keep quiet Morton and just listen.

The next thing that flashed up on the big screen was a presentation about the names of organisers. What was this all about... there were names I was familiar with on the left but on the right a list of names I had not heard of in relation to Filofax. Then it became clear.... these were the proposed names of the models in the future.

Current Name Future Name Finchley Le Raincy Winchester Laon Boston Marseille Buckingham
Mouvoux Metropol Metropoliatin Cuban Cubain Guildford Poitiers

The next screen showed a crude mock up of the replacement of the 'Jack Vintage' I shook my head in despair, who did they get to do the mock up.... someone who obviously had no experience of Photoshop.



[2]

What ever, but it at least gave me some idea of how much a take over this was going to be. The final screen finished off the presentation with the big slogan:

Philofax c'est un mode de vie
[3]<http://www.philofax.co.uk/>

They had changed the name.... what a company, they actually recognised the powerful influence of Philofaxy... I felt honoured.

The poor chaps on the other side of the table were looking totally dejected, what did the future hold for them.

I never did find out.... because the cat woke me up... it had all been a dream... or had it...

This post is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places and incidents are either the product of the author's imagination or are used fictionally. Any resemblance to actual people, living or dead, events or locales , is entirely coincidental. If any of the things described above come true, then the author will be just as surprised as the reader.

1. <http://www.scotsman.com/business/management/french-firm-in-the-frame-as-diary-maker-letts-goes-up-for-sale-again-1-2543082>
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-x eo4ql7CQgk/UGSveB5ciaI/AAAAAAAAANbo/HSeszw2SGso/s1600/Jack_Vintage+2.png
3. <http://www.philofax.co.uk/>

Tommes (2012-10-01 09:04:58)
Another great one Steve, another great one!!! :-)

Imogen Callaway (2012-10-01 09:14:22)
Steve your good at this.... and guess what? I GOT THE IT! lol Miracles can happen! x

Laurie (2012-10-01 09:15:38)

LOL Steve we'll see if this fictional account turns out to be a premonition after all!!

Lily (2012-10-01 09:29:20)

I love the idea of the Metropol being called the Metroplitain.

Lord Dodo (2012-10-01 09:30:42)

Well, if your move to France had anything to do with this then you were/are VERY ahead of your time but entirely 'en point'! Interesting times ahead.

Nan (2012-10-01 09:40:16)

This is great, Steve! I love it!!!!

Sandra (2012-10-01 10:07:02)

C'est magnifique!

Paul B (2012-10-01 11:53:07)

To be fair,

If they made the name Metropolitan in the same font as the Metro sign, it would have a certain cachet, non? I've made my decision and I'm sticking to it. I don't intend to buy a new Filofax again until they sort the quality out. Vintage only pour moi. Having recently received an A5 in Italian bridle leather, I'm afraid there is simply no competition. This is a binder I will pass on, when I pass away and it will still be going strong.

JJ Hitt (2012-10-01 12:27:08)

I like the idea of renaming the styles. Henceforth, my Cuban will be known as the Miami-Dade.

LJ (2012-10-01 12:44:55)

How fabulous would that be? :o)

Paul B (2012-10-01 13:49:41)

I think the total age of my binders is around 250 years. For some strange reason, I like that. Love the idea of renaming some. The Miami-Dade rocks. Images of Al Pacino in Scarface come to mind. A limited edition range to honour the movies, maybe. I'd be up for a "Godfather" one with the logo, especially if in Italian, showing "Il Padrino" and the strings. We can but dream.....

Steve Morton (2012-10-01 14:23:44)

In case you are wondering how the names came about.... doing some 'extensive research' and using my 'local knowledge' I just transposed the names in to French, or used the towns/cities they were twinned with in some cases!

But it's only a bit of fun, I'm pleased you enjoyed it!

Anita (2012-10-01 17:01:37)

Loved it, Steve :)

Alison Reeves (2012-10-01 18:48:39)

Nice one Steve! If only you were a fly on the wall!

DEM (2012-10-01 18:59:59)

Well done! An enjoyable read! more, more.

austinlinda (2012-10-01 20:26:13)

WOW! I was taken in the whole time—honest! Crazy American me!

Steve—I'm going to have to watch out for you! Great read, though!

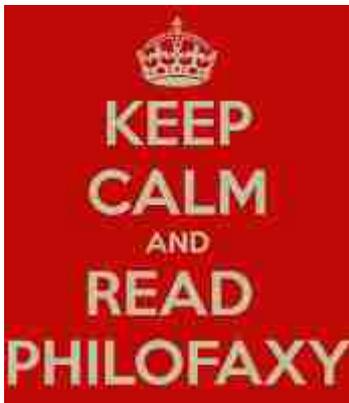
Maybe someday..... ;)

Angel Jem (2012-10-02 04:38:13)
Je voudrais Le Raincy en rouge, s'il vous plait.

WeirdRockStar (2012-10-02 06:02:05)
You cunning man, you...
While I was reading my mind kept buzzing " mais oui... mais oui... " and at the same time I felt like such a slutty sell- out for FF. And I was not ashamed.

Steve Morton (2012-10-02 06:40:04)
I should have included that Carla Bruni-Sarkozy was going to be the replacement famous name designer for Temperley, I know Carla doesn't have a reputation for designing organisers... but does Alice Temperley?

Free For All Tuesday No. 87 (2012-10-02 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have. So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-bJDrXVhsvXI/T-3uAaeb2dI/AAAAAAAAAL9Q/I7Nbi20ZwrU/s1600/keepcalm1.png>

Gail W (2012-10-02 04:28:18)
Good morning everyone, I have asked this on Facebook, but will try here also. I am after a Personal sized Organiser (does NOT have to be Filofax) which has 30mm rings. I know the Cuban Zip has them and I already own this one, but I don't ever see it lying flat to use on a daily basis. If anyone knows of any large ring organisers, please could you let me know. I have looked a Collins organisers on the net, but they don't let you know the ring sizes, if anyone has one, could you please tell me!

Laurie (2012-10-02 04:38:07)
Franklin Covey makes binders with 1 inch, 1.125 inch and even 1.5 inch rings. Their binders are excellent quality too.

Scot (2012-10-02 04:43:43)
Steve, thanks for the story about feathering Filofax paper at the meeting. I am quite sure, quite reasonably, that such recognition would be almost like getting an Oscar.
Also, interesting that both sides used paper based products as that sums up nicely what I experience at meetings; which is that when note taking quickly, or drawing boxes/lines/circles within such notes, people set aside their toys and write on paper.
Will look forward to hearing more, which I assume will be interesting as a certain party had clearly picked up on the interest in, and success of, personal organisers and this site.

gdigesu (2012-10-02 06:07:48)

This comment has been removed by the author.

gdigesu (2012-10-02 06:09:57)

What is the status of the deal with the French? Any news?

Steve Morton (2012-10-02 06:23:50)

Not heard any more... but you can be assured... as soon as I hear you will know about it!

gdigesu (2012-10-02 06:27:27)

Checked the Scotsman. Nothing there. The French press, perhaps?

Scoot (2012-10-02 06:29:44)

Any news would have to be first released through the stock exchange.

Tim (2012-10-02 07:03:50)

Surely not Scoot! LFG is wholly owned by Phoenix (venture capitalists) and certain members of the management team. It's not a publically listed company on the stock exchange.

PaperMeister (2012-10-02 07:20:50)

I'm searching for ideas on dividers. I like the idea of tabbing my sections, but hate the idea of adding bulk. (I just ordered a pocket Finsbury used—I refuse to buy anything new directly from Filofax, which is pretty sad—and I'm so excited I can hardly stand it!) The easiest would be post it notes or taking a highlighter and coloring a strip of color down the outside of the pages.

Going to try this man's idea about using Molkeskine paper to get the largest sheet of paper possible in my pocket: <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.com/2012/05/paying-attention-to-my-to-do-list.html>

However, the tabs would clearly stick out.

Other than coloring the edges of the paper, anyone have any other ideas?

PM

Scoot (2012-10-02 07:22:03)

Ah, I assumed that Phoenix were listed.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-02 07:31:09)

When I put pocket Moleskine paper in a pocket filo, I used top tabs instead! The best way not to add bulk would be to use something like Avery tabs, or as you said, Post-it notes!

Ling (2012-10-02 07:44:25)

Hi all,

I was wondering what Filofax pocket have a pouch or a zip pocket on the outside?

Paul B (2012-10-02 08:26:50)

Hi Gail. Can you send me your email address ref the 30 mil binder? Thanks.

JasJan (2012-10-02 08:34:47)

I am looking for the same thing. FC ones that are nice are have to be shipped from the US. I like the look of the 'Veronica' after Zeitgeist of Zoe's post.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-02 09:17:02)

I would like a Franklin Covey 'Compact' size binder, but sadly they don't see to have any on their UK website - in fact there are not that many on the US website either - if anyone knows of a good source, please do let me know!

Laurie (2012-10-02 09:20:33)

Alison they do have them on the UK website but you have to choose the binder then find the pull-down size selector and choose Compact. At least they had some last week when I was looking around!

Same on the US site, you have to select Compact. There's a much larger selection on the US site but still the majority of their binders are Classic size.

Bryan (2012-10-02 09:40:19)

I have a question. I own a personal size Cuban which I really enjoy. The one thing that really bugs me about it though is that it does not lay flat. Does that tend to be true of all personal size FF?

Gail W (2012-10-02 09:43:14)

Hiya Paul, my e-mail addy is gail1972@msn.com

Jordan Powers (2012-10-02 10:17:05)

Yep, I second the Avery tab idea! You can get them at Staples, and I'm sure a ton of other places. I use them as "sub tabs" within my tabs- just stick them onto a regular sheet of notepaper! Then you can still use that sheet for notes, but you have a durable section in place :)

Paul B (2012-10-02 10:22:08)

Hi Bryan. The Cuban seems particularly stubborn. Its not typical of ALL personal size FFs. Some are very soft and lie flat without even so much as a hint of having to say "lie!". I think its the leather of the Cuban that is much more rigid than other models.

DEM (2012-10-02 10:36:04)

I would say FC as well.

DEM (2012-10-02 10:37:36)

I use sticky tabs instead of the month dividers. Cut down on quite a bit of bulk!

T-na (2012-10-02 10:38:29)

Pocket Urban and Pocket Siena have the zipped pockets on the outside. Siena's is a small one in front but the Urban has a decent full length (height) one on the back cover. There are lots of others with zipped pockets inside but you are looking for external pockets, eh? As for pouch, are you including the full width wallet style pocket? If yes, most have them (too many to list here) — I know Siena does NOT have it though.

Some of the older Pocket models have a full length slip pocket on the back cover: Pocket Kendal, Pocket Hamilton. Personal Sketch has one but I don't know if pocket Sketch has it.

Pocket Urban has the most practical layout for me – both with the full width wallet and the external zippered pocket.

DEM (2012-10-02 10:39:42)

Oh no! Not true on all personal. My Malden laid flat as did my Ostrich.

Bryan (2012-10-02 10:51:38)

That's good to know. Thanks DEM and Paul for the info.

Alondra Karwowski (2012-10-02 11:04:26)

I use the Martha Stewart tabs from the Avery line at Staples. They are lovely :)

Alondra Karwowski (2012-10-02 11:06:35)

My Metropol laid perfectly flat right outside the box :)

DEM (2012-10-02 11:29:44)

Sure thing! Hmmm, I wonder how often people ask about "flatability" of binders. Maybe a guide on which ones lay flat would be useful??? Just an idea.

T-na (2012-10-02 11:59:59)

OOPS – "As for pouch, are you including the full width wallet style pocket? If yes, most have them (too many to list here) — I know Siena does NOT have it though."

Getting my models mixed up. Siena does have the wallet pocket, it's the Kendal that doesn't have one. I was testing those 2 out recently and got them confused there.

Paul B (2012-10-02 12:01:02)

Gail, I have sent you an email.

Cheryl (2012-10-02 12:58:16)

Ooops I did it again...I couldn't resist the A5 grey Malden on adspot. I already have the pocket in grey and I had planned to get the Personal size in grey this month. But, I couldn't resist the A5. So the Personal will have to wait a bit. Though I'm not particularly fond of grey (or hadn't been)there is just something about that shade of grey Malden that I particular like, plus its buttery smooth finish. I hope I won't be sorry that I didn't get that ochre one, but once I had the grey pocket in hand I knew that was the one. I might consider the crimson Personal if that ever surfaced somewhere but that one is pretty elusive I think. I already had the black Personal and sent it back; I just didn't care for the texture on the one I received. After I complete my Malden collection I really must stop for awhile. (Unless of course, that Holden goes back at 50 % off). Oh, dear. :-o

LJ (2012-10-02 13:42:47)

And the Domino does a very good impression of a pancake too :o)

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-02 14:14:11)

I have a FC Compact with 1.125 rings or maybe it's 1.25. The binder came with 1" but I had them replace them at the store with the larger rings. I think my binder is Her Point of View. But that doesn't help. There are definitely larger rings available on the website.

Terri Carroll (2012-10-02 14:55:14)

This isn't so much a filofax question as a philofaxy question...

is it only possible to comment with a google account or am I being really dim?

andthensheread.com

Ling (2012-10-02 15:16:36)

Thanks for your reply, it's really helpful. You sure do know your Filofax. :) I didn't mean the full wallet style pocket, I was only wondering about outside pockets/pouches, because I saw a photo of a pocket Filofax somewhere with a pocket on the outside and I could't find it. But thanks to your info, I found out it's the zipped pocket Hamilton.

Steve Morton (2012-10-02 15:16:59)

Hi Terri

Yes that is the way the blog is set up at present, but by limiting it to Google accounts, we have been able to turn off the verification word check which is disliked by most people.

You have always had to have some form of login to comment on Philofaxy in the last few years.

The other thing you need to do is to ensure your browser accepts 3rd party cookies, without that you also will not be able to comment on the blog, this is a function of Blogspot and not something we can control.

If you have any additional questions/concerns please email me using the address on our About page.

Thanks, Regards — Steve

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-02 15:44:45)

So how many use an A5 and carry it with them everywhere? I really want to use the larger size because I have a lot to keep track of but I'm wondering if I can do it. I'm wondering if it's worth having the extra space or if I should just stick to my smaller size and make it work.

Paul B (2012-10-02 15:57:46)

Does anyone know of a product (insert, maybe?) that you can use to keep a pen in in the FF. I don't like the quiver, and don't want something that goes over the outside. I'm looking for something that might clip into the FF with a loop at the end, sort of where the tabs would be on dividers. I want to start carrying my fountain pen but the loop on mine is leather and is too tight. My binder has a leather flap covering the long edge so I have plenty space. Not sure if it exists but figure if it does, someone here will know. Thanks.

Steve Morton (2012-10-02 16:04:56)

Hi Paul

How about adapting a Flex pen loop, punch some holes in it and clip it in to the rings.

Or The Ryman Pen clips on our Suppliers page in the Amazon adverts.

Steve

Paul B (2012-10-02 16:11:44)

Until a couple of months ago I had been using one for the last 3 years. I guess it depends on your job. I was managing a program overseas and needed to print and carry a lot of printed stuff including charts, spreadsheets etc. I carried it everywhere. Sure, it was a pain sometimes but worth it to be able to print A4 and put it straight in. Eventually, I weighed it and it came in at 2.2 kg and I decided I needed to change. Moved into personal a couple of months ago. Love the portability (and the beauty of smooth, patina'd leather that only comes with ages), but I'm already finding a quite considerable overhead in how much more time I am spending, to print and cut my printed matter, especially my twice weekly updated spreadsheet. Just bought a vintage A5 again and look at it every day, a wondering when to make the move back.

Paul B (2012-10-02 16:15:02)

Thanks Steve. I haven't seen the Flex loop, i'll check that first on the suppliers' page.

Steve Morton (2012-10-02 16:17:13)

As in this Flex loop

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/flex/products.asp?tn=1 &control=processrequest &flextype=10 &flexsize=0>

It's a plastic sheet with an elasticated loop fixed to it.

Paul B (2012-10-02 16:25:53)

Leah Greentree (2012-10-02 20:21:43)

Cheryl I'm not much help but when you get the chance get the Ochre. I bought the personal size when it was 50 % off on the Filofax US site. I LOVE it!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-02 20:58:27)

Has anyone used the Filofax storage binder? <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=513>

Just found this on the site today and wondering. No one has ever mentioned it.

Ling (2012-10-03 07:59:33)

I think you should try it to find out. I have a personal Holborn and an A5 Malden and I can't make up my mind. I use the Holborn for everything including a wallet. It's so convenient. But every evening I start writing notes in the Malden just to try the paper size and it does make a difference. If I had lots of money I'd try a 20mm A5, preferably the brown Regency.

terri (2012-10-03 19:32:37)

Aha, thanks!

KarynsPlanit (2012-10-03 20:29:54)

PaulB- This was on Filofax for pHilofaxy Fans on Facebook. Brilliant idea! Please let me know if the link doesn't come through-I will attempt to re-post.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/photo.php?fbid=479966808700368&set=p.479966808700368&type=1&theater>

Web Finds 2 October 2012 (2012-10-02 12:00) - Steve Morton

Here we are again with the latest Filofax or should that be Philofax posts from around the web:

1. [1]Fashion? - Joshua Buffum Laporte
2. [2]Cover Story Finalists Revealed! - Filofax UK
3. [3]A Warrior MAMA on the go – the “Cranberry” part 1 - Warrior Mama
4. [4]A Warrior MAMA on the go – the “Cranberry” part 2 - Warrior Mama
5. [5]Temperley for Filofax bei Filofax Deutschland - Filomaniac
6. [6]A Personal Organiser - The Paper Journal
7. [7]The Wild-West MeetUp – with a bonus video! :D - Lime Tree Fruits
8. [8]Philofaxy meet up 22nd September - Anita Lim
9. [9]Filofax story - Flashbooks
10. [10]My 2008 Ratatouille FunFax - Imysworld
11. [11]my filofax week #24 - Paper Lovestory
12. [12]Finally... I bought an A5 Filofax - Pen to Paper
13. [13]My Filofax Week - Freshers! - The Wonderful World of Alice
14. [14]What's Inside My A5 Purple Finsbury - PART 1 - The Beginnings of a Filo-Fanatic
15. [15]Dodopad Goodies - LJ's Blog of Stuff
16. [16]Pen Review - Rotring Rapidograph - LJ's Blog of Stuff
17. [17]10 reasons why I use a paper planner - Cloudberry Musings
18. [18]Homemade Filofax inserts - The World of Debimoje
19. [19]My Filofax Week #1 - Glossette
20. [20]WH Smith 'Week to View' Pocket Diary review! - The Wonderful World of Alice
21. [21]Filofax additions! - The Wonderful World of Alice
22. [22]365/30 Lists: October - The Life of The Perpetual Student
23. [23]Download and print lined paper for your Filofax - My Life All in One Place
24. [24]What's in my filofax? - Beauty Comes From Within
25. [25]My New Health Plan/System - All Things Gay
26. [26]Wake Me Up When September Ends - Filo Update - Behind my Purpley Life

27. [27]Filofax College - Week 1 - To-do Lists #1 - Imysworld
28. [28]Journalling School Session 11: Looking back - My Life All in One Place
29. [29]Journalling School (11) - Filomaniac
30. [30]Malden in Purple jetzt in Deutschland erhältlich - Filomaniac
31. [31]Franklin Covey "Veronica" Binder Review - The Zeigeist of Zoe
32. [32]Holborn Multi Pen - It's My Life!
33. [33]My Filofax Setup - Femme Musings
34. [34]Customising your Filofax Cover - Jagged Little Thoughts
35. [35]Filofax: Personal vs A5 - Jagged Little Thoughts

And here are the video finds for this week.

IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/KJ58Ztflbug?rel=0>

IFRAME: [37]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/dJZRnV-vSL8?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://joshuabuffumlaporte.tumblr.com/post/32535603187/fashion>
2. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/aboutus/news.asp?newsId=156>
3. <http://warriormama.com/a-warrior-mama-on-the-go-the-cranberry-part-1/>
4. <http://warriormama.com/a-warrior-mama-on-the-go-the-cranberry-part-2/>
5. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/09/temperley-for-filofax-bei-filofax.html>
6. <http://thepaperjournal.wordpress.com/2012/09/28/a-personal-organiser/>
7. <http://limetreefruits.com/2012/09/27/the-wild-west-meetup-with-a-bonus-video-d/>
8. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.co.uk/2012/09/philofaxy-meet-up-22nd-september.html>
9. <http://www.wiki-info.de/filofax-story/filofax-story-8-links-u-adressen.htm>
10. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/09/my-2008-ratatouille-funfax.html>
11. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/09/my-filofax-week-24.html>
12. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/09/finally-i-bought-a5-filofax.html>
13. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/09/my-filofax-week-freshers.html>
14. <http://beginningofafilofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/09/whats-inside-my-a5-purple-finsbury-part.html>
15. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/09/dodopad-goodies.html>
16. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/09/pen-review-rottring-rapidograph.html>
17. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/09/10-reasons-why-i-use-paper-planner.html>
18. <http://debimoje.blogspot.fr/2012/09/homemade-filofax-inserts.html>
19. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/09/29/my-filofax-week-1/>
20. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/09/wh-smith-week-to-view-pocket-diary.html>
21. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/09/filofax-additions.html>
22. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/09/36530-lists-october.html>
23. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/09/download-and-print-lined-paper-for-your.html>
24. <http://www.beautyfcw.com/2012/09/whats-in-my-filofax.html>
25. <http://allthingsgay123.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-new-health-plansystem.html>
26. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/wake-me-up-when-september-ends-filo.html>
27. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-college-week-1-to-do-lists-1.html>
28. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/journalling-school-session-11-looking.html>
29. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/journalling-school-11.html>
30. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/malden-in-purple-jetzt-in-deutschland.html>
31. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/10/01/franklin-covey-veronica-binder-review/>
32. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/10/holborn-multi-pen.html>

33. <http://femmeinistspectator.wordpress.com/2012/10/01/my-filofax-setup/>
34. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/customising-your-filofax-cover.html>
35. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-personal-vs-a5.html>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/KJ58Ztf1bug?rel=0>
37. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/dJZRnV-vSL8?rel=0>

Alondra Karwowski (2012-10-02 13:44:05)

If you would like to check out my new blog here is the link: <http://lolakarwowski.blogspot.com/>
:)

The Paper Journal (2012-10-02 13:46:49)

Thank you for adding my post :)

Steve Morton (2012-10-02 13:49:20)

Lola, monitoring your site for Filofax posts.

LJ (2012-10-02 14:10:16)

Wow - 35 and it's only a Tuesday. I'm being good and only doing a few a night :o) Cheers Steve :o)

Anita (2012-10-03 06:29:15)

Thanks for adding mine too, Steve :)

Guest Post - David - Filofax as a study aid (2012-10-03 00:00) - Steve Morton

Thank you to David Popely for his wise words and observations.

One of the more encouraging trends I've noted from my Twitter feed lately is the number of new and returning university students investing in Filofax.

It seems commendable that people young as well as older are taking their personal organisation seriously, and I can't help but think that these are the students more likely to succeed - not just because they are using Filofaxes, but because they've spotted that more than half the knack of getting a degree (or a qualification of any kind) is being able to handle the organisation, the deadlines (bunched or otherwise) and the general number of loose threads which need to be tracked and monitored. Good luck to you all....you deserve it.

This trend now seems to be seeping down into schools as well as colleges and universities. If Filofax ever tire of beating the dead horse that is the fashion market (let's not go there again), they could do a lot worse than get into college and university bookshops, and conduct a concerted campaign among students of all ages, where their products would do some lasting good rather than just pander to the egos of fashion bloggers (oops).

It's worth bearing in mind that there are a far higher percentage of 'mature' (read 'old') students than there used to be, and that universities in particular love them for the fact that they're all giving something up (whether job or just time, and certainly money) to be there, and their commitment is pretty much assured.

I myself came late to tertiary study (I was a comparatively ancient 42 years old when I walked through the doors for the first time), and it was only because I had learned through my business management roles that if didn't manage my time it would automatically end up in the hands of others that I was able to get the work done and earn a degree. My Filofax and Time Manager (I used the systems interchangeably) were instrumental in getting that done, and I'm still grateful.

If anyone is currently using their Filofax as a specifically study-related aid it might be interesting, but also useful to those just starting out, to see exactly how you apply your system to your studies.

Josh (2012-10-03 00:11:07)

I actually work in higher education and see that lots of students are using paper planners of one type or another. I see lots of simple spiral pocket calendars, moleskines, the occasional Lilly Pulitzer planners, and a good number of cheerful planners from Target and the like. I've not seen a filofax yet, but definitely think that those who are predicting the end of paper planners must be mistaken when so many young people are choosing to use paper.

Paul B (2012-10-03 00:11:58)

David, a very interesting post. I used my A5 all the way through my MA, which I started as a mature student in my 30s. I did it full time, while in a full time job, as I didn't have the time to do it over 2 years. It resulted in a working weeks of about 80-90 hours. I handed every essay in early, yet we still had full time students aged 21 coming straight from their BA courses, who always handed in late. Saying they didn't have time to write the essay. Commitment is everything an mature students usually have it in sackfuls. Nearly finished my PhD and didn't use irbe FF at all, mainly due to rhe difficulties of my working location and other factors. I always wished I had started using the A5 as a study binder, I know it would have helped enormously.

I bought my 11 year old nephew a vintage Filofax College to start secondary school last month and he loves it. The fact rhat one is using a system at all, to manage time and priorities, also indicates a more organised and dedicated approach, and I agree that this in itself is a contributing factor to a higher probability of success in studying. I know TPS will agree with both of us!

Lily (2012-10-03 03:03:12)

What I find interesting (I just started uni, for context) is how many people have clearly used school supplied homework diaries their whole lives and it,s only just occurred to them that they ought to go and buy a diary, a week into term.

This is also how my friend 'forgot' to go to a birthday party this summer. Grumble grumble.

Cloudberry (2012-10-03 03:33:33)

I am mid MSc, about to start my dissertation. I know I need a loose leaf binder in order to form sections/topics. I'm thinking of dedicating my A5 to this, but have some concerns about having to reduce handouts down from A4 to A5. In lectures I use an A4 spiral bound as it can be folded over and handouts during class stuffed in the the back. For that reason, I am undecided between using my A5 or A4 zipped.

A5 will be more portable, but A4 will be more practical.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-03 03:58:17)

Some very good points here David. I'm truly sorry to admit that the young ones in my family have no concept of planning, diaries and time management. When I have tried to broach the subject I've been met with friendly indulgent derision (from the adults) and a perplexed shake of the head from the younger ones who would benefit. What worries me is that they just don't see any responsibility at all for managing their time - some all encompassing being somewhere will make sure it all comes out right!

I think student should learn some of this stuff in school (an active lesson) alongside one or two other useful 'life-skill' topics. I never got taught a lot of things which would have really stood me in good stead in later life - some I figured out for myself but other things I'd love to have known more about at a younger age.

I definitely agree that Filofax are missing a trick here - capturing them young will keep them for life (well the tobacco manufacturers have learnt this valuable marketing lesson haven't they?)

Scoot (2012-10-03 04:28:12)

Why not try a single A4 work file cum organiser?

Any Pound type store will sell a cheap A4 diary, which can be cut out and stuck into an A4 file. Add your timetable, plans, contact sheets, clear pocket envelopes, spare note paper and you're probably there.

Alice x (2012-10-03 07:19:56)

Im a student and i often get weird looks for producing my Filofax during uni hours.

The careers adviser actually looked shocked and raised his eyebrows at me as i took notes on what he was saying, stashed a business card from him and wrote down my appointment complete with stickers to remind me and in

matching pen colour in my filo!

Most people think im mad, ive very rarely seen any student (mature students included) with any sort of paper planner at all, usually it is iphone's or blackberry's or a scrap of paper (or usually nothing at all) - they are always the ones who have no idea where they are going/what they are doing/generally what is going on!

At least i know that if i wake up late and have to rush into uni i will always have a pen and notepaper to aid me in my filofax regardless of rushing out without thinking.

If i didn't have my filo i wouldn't have a clue what was going on! I use it for everything both home and uni related, its stuffed full of to do lists, shopping i need, appointments, family get together's, housework, my cv, my pets feeding records, finance sheets, passwords, bills etc - if i ever lost it i would be heartbroken!

Ive used a paper planner since year 7 at school (since the age of 11) - we were given them by school up until the end of GCSE) and in 6th form one of my favourite things was picking my new planner from WHSmith's for the next academic year and sticking pockets and things in it ready to use!

Ive used a ringed organiser since February this year and i would NEVER go back!

Cloudberry (2012-10-03 07:54:57)

Good idea Scoot. There's a Pound shop in town where I work - I shall pop in and see what they have. I don't want to spend a lot on FF inserts.

I think I am coming down on the side of A4 for the sheer practicality. I'm going to trial it this weekend as I have lectures to attend.

The binder I have is zipped with a handle on the spine making it easier to carry. It also has a much larger ring size than FF.

gdigesu (2012-10-03 08:05:45)

Your adviser might benefit from your post, I think.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-03 08:46:46)

Also - you could print out any of the Ray & Steve diary inserts to fit an A4.

Joey Quinton (2012-10-03 11:24:16)

I am a lover of words, and I so appreciate the way in which David uses them.

David Popely (2012-10-03 13:51:57)

Scan the A4 doc to a PDF. You can then print the PDF out direct from Acrobat Reader, specifying A5 as the paper size and tick 'shrink to fit'. Acrobat will put your A4 handout straight onto A5, plus you'll have a PDF you can back up and file/save. Simple!

David Popely (2012-10-03 13:55:22)

Hi Alison

If I *ever* get to do my Masters now that the Government have made further study a pastime only available to the independently wealthy, I'll have to do a compulsory 'Form and method' module which will bring me up to speed on research methodologies. Why not indeed add a module on advanced study skills and planning. I recall reading 'The Good Study Guide' when I started my BA, and although I can't recall the exact content now, I'm sure it had such a chapter, and was (maybe still is) an OU required preliminary text.

Why has 'planning' become such a dirty word? Maybe it's because we expect our gadgets to be doing it for us rather than acting as tools?

David Popely (2012-10-03 14:19:20)

So why is it now thought of as 'weird' or 'uncool' to be organised? I'd have thought it was the disorganised who would be uncool - always dashing to meet 'surprise' deadlines, not being on top of workflow, etc. Some basic organisation then means you can enjoy life without having your brain handle all those details....good luck with your studies!

Jess FY (2012-10-03 15:32:39)

Hey,

I would just like to say that I really enjoyed reading this post. I have just started my second year of University, although not using a Filofax just for University, I do have a 'Uni' section in my main Filofax. I get weird looks all the time for pulling it out halfway through my lecture or whenever. I don't understand why, and just chuckle to myself when I see other students pulling out sheets and sheets of loose paper from there bag.

As I get into my third year, or my MA I will probably give my studies there own separate Filo, but with the amount of print out ETC I'm finding it much easier to just keep reference in my Filofax off the different print outs which are kept in my A4 ring binder.

I agree, Filofax should be targeting students and college goes of whatever age rather than trying to hit the fashion industry. (It's just not what Filofax is about really). Myself being 22 and living away from home sometimes find the prices of actual Filofax inserts (and binders) a little pricey. but with the wonderful Philofaxy site and eBay this isn't too much of an issue.

Cheers for a wonderful read :).

Jess xx

Butanben (2012-10-03 16:55:22)

Hi there,

Just wanted to say that when I was doing my Masters, my Filofax was used as a diary, course work and deadlines planner, a keeper of tutorial records and oft used reference details.... eg Harvard Referencing techniques, dictionary terms used in Qualitative and Quantitative enquiry etc. The main work, the writing and first drafts of projects, essays and dissertation, reading and research papers and yards of data collection were simply far too much for any Filofax or clutch of Filofaxes to handle!!! Huge ring binders and box files were honestly the only step forwards, as was a Filofax diary and wall calendar combo!!! I did my Masters whilst teaching full time, so it really was a plate spinning and juggling around activity.... I also managed to pass my threshold teaching qualification at the same time.... so a lot is possible. Just wanted to say all the best to all students out there who are busy studying and beavering away... and using their Filofaxes as a planning tool. Wish every one of you all the best!! xx

Terri Carroll (2012-10-03 18:04:08)

I have recently purchased an A5 Finsbury for uni (I'm in my final year) and am finding that it works pretty well actually. All the handouts I've been given I just fold in half and snip a bit off the bottom, which generally always has a large margin. It's small enough to fit in my bag, but big enough for writing notes.

As for refills, for the sake of laziness I bought some A5 notebooks with perforations, I just hole-punch them and stick them in :)

I have definitely found that I am much more organised this year thanks to my planner! (and much poorer, stationery is addictive!)

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-03 19:46:50)

I agree, both on the value of such a tool, and that Filofax are missing out on a potential market where they could do a lot of good as well as a lot of business!

Throughout school and A-levels I was always organised, but always seeking a better way to be so. I would buy my own academic diaries, but never did I find one that really suited me, and I used to try I'm ashamed to remember how many each year. I would really have benefitted from using a Filofax then to build my own system, but the price of the binders and inserts (I wouldn't have been able to print my own inserts then) always put me off. And even when I found a Filofax at a great price I never really got into using it because the inserts on offer didn't suit me any better than the diaries - in fact they were worse!

Now, I'm coming back to Filofaxes as a University student who has the materials available to make my own inserts, and has found this awesome site and the amazing inserts people who are serious about organisation have made. I don't use my Filofax for every aspect of organisation. I get on very well with my Mac and iPhone for a lot of things. But now I'm putting together a system that really works for me.

So far (and I think we all know how that can change!) I have settled on having a main A5 binder for general organisation, with sections for calendar, my studies, my writing, my personal projects and personal reference. I then also have another A5 binder specifically for my course. Since most of our materials are provided as PDFs, it's

easy to print and punch them for the binder, and I can annotate them either by hand or on my computer first, but still have them with me when I need them. One thing I like is that I can keep them open beside my computer to see both - which saves switching workspaces on my 11" laptop!

My new module hasn't even officially started yet, so my study binder is a work in progress, but so far it's holding the main guides for the module and assessment, a printout of the course schedule and learning aims, a section for quotes and inspiration, one for reference such as notes from books I read or interesting concepts I want to remember, and sections for each assignment I'll have to complete, in which I store print-outs of anything relevant I find. I'll soon add blank paper I think so that I can directly work within the binder, but at the moment I'm getting on well working in my 'main' binder and then transferring things across - I like that I can have all the things I could be looking at with me, and then I can choose which I feel I can handle at the time!

I am aware that my experiences differ from most people so I don't know how well this would work for most people, since I am a distance-learning student who battles illness rather than the jobs and family pressures that seem to be most people's biggest time commitments. But in my past modules when I did not use a Filofax, I found that when working on assignments in particular I'd end up with loads of sheets of loose paper with notes, print-outs, brainstorms etc and they'd never be in order or quite where I needed them (the opposite to my computer where Scrivener keeps me perfectly organised), so now I'm taking action :)

Hannah C. (2012-10-04 00:06:06)

I used paper planners throughout college (and may have used them in high school too), but never Filofaxes, and when I did use looseleaf planners I never took advantage of them like I could have! I don't know how anyone manages to get through school without a planner of some sort, honestly. I think even my most disorganized friends had a list of things to do. I would always pull out my planner to note assignments due for the next class. I occasionally felt self-conscious because I would have to unzip or zip my bag or planner and it made noise.

Right now, my Filofax is the only thing keeping me on top of my full-time graduate course load, my part-time job, and my full-time wife- and motherhood. As long as I can complete all of my coursework I will be okay. I have never been this busy - not even in my last semester of college, when I was married and pregnant (meaning I remembered NOTHING if I didn't write it down - I couldn't even remember my weekly schedule), taking a full course load and writing a thesis, and working 10 hours a week.

Hannah C. (2012-10-04 00:08:29)

I've had a very similar planner experience so far. I've never used a planner so fully as I am right now in grad school and grown-up life, and I made very good use of my planners in undergrad! I just wish I'd realized the full capabilities of ringed organizers in undergrad.

Alice x (2012-10-04 07:08:54)

Most of my friends think its 'quirky' and 'cute' that i have a filofax and love it so much! Its uncool to have one as it is old fashioned to use a paper planner apparently.

I dont mind though, people look at me weird in the shops as well when the shopping list post it comes out and gets crossed off.

Apparently im far too young to be so 'anal' with my organisation!

Thanks, hopefully with the aid of my filo my degree will go more smoothly :)

Paul B (2012-10-04 08:13:46)

Cloudberry, I took the opposite approach. I bought Papercase A5 spiral bound notebooks with perforated pages, wrote all my lecture notes on A5, tore them out when I got home, and punched them for my A5 Filofax. Due to the fine perforations, they had very neat edges. It was a perfect solution for me, and the paper chase books were cheap but very good quality paper.

Myrmecia (2012-10-05 16:55:07)

Could it be that young people don't "plan" as much as we used to on paper, because they are "planning" over the phone, texting or on Facebook? They know that if there is a party or other special event, they will receive many reminders from others before the event and so making their own list is seen as superfluous. The hairdresser and the dentist ring me the day before my appointment (actually, the dentist rings, but the hairdresser sends a

system-generated SMS). This covers for the lack of planning by clients.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-06 14:21:32)

I do indeed!! :D Excellent uses of Filofaxes for higher education! :)

Plastic pencil case hack (2012-10-04 00:00) - Anita Lim

Since [1]returning to personal size, it occurred to me that I like the idea of being able to sometimes use my purple Malden as my wallet. However, what would I use to carry money in so that it's both safe and easily accessible? I don't like the Filofax zip-lock envelopes and gave mine away as the plastic zip part made the contents a bit too fat for my liking. I considered other brands like Day-Timer or maybe trying to hole punch some grip seal bags, but then it came to me, what about a plastic pencil case like the one I used for exams at school? I looked in WH Smith, but they were all either too expensive or too thick. And then I saw them at my local supermarket! Luckily the big Tesco here also sells a very limited amount of filofax stock, so I was able to compare the pencil case size to a personal size diary and bingo, it was a match.

I did find hole punching it a little tricky as the plastic got a bit stuck, but after some gentle determination with some tweezers it was done. I'd definitely recommend a single hole punch for the job though. It will be hard wearing and I like how the zipper sticks out past the inserts. This means it doesn't add much bulk and it's easily accessible when I'm at the till. My plan was to only pop it in for when I'm using it as a wallet, but I like it so much that it's now a permanent feature and can hold so much more than the normal top opening envelope. I did initially fancy something a bit less plain, but at about 40 pence it was too good to turn down and couldn't be a better fit.



[2]



[3]



[4]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/another-day-another-malden.html>
2. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-L0oR0PDZmqE/UGTEB0xFyzI/AAAAAAAAAsE/Qcb4r1i9RFU/s1600/P1030027.JPG>
3. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-KwgQNr9Qe1g/UGTEJ5C5KzI/AAAAAAAAAsM/XmIR1W2XFKU/s1600/P1030028.JPG>
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-iu0nOYArYf4/UGTEN62EjmI/AAAAAAAAAsY/_sk5bqATU1A/s1600/P1030029.JPG

Laura @ Twenty5seven (2012-10-04 02:25:31)
brilliant idea, i love it!

Cloudberry (2012-10-04 03:39:03)

I love these transparent pencil cases and have several in different colours. I use them for make-up, pencils/pens, currency when travelling. I can see instantly what's in them, or what's missing! I never thought to punch one into my FF though - great idea.

Alison (2012-10-04 03:57:07)

Great idea, thanks for sharing :)

Lily (2012-10-04 05:19:34)

That's GENIUS. Love it. Very enabling though - one step closer to ordering a Malden now :(

Elke K (2012-10-04 08:59:38)

Love this idea - thanks so much for sharing, now off to buy one of these pencil cases! :)

I put coupons in my Filofax and I always found their top-opening envelope too tight and sometimes too fiddly to get into - this seems like the perfect solution!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-10-04 14:22:27)

I've done something similar in the past and have just this day (before managing to read this) punched some holes in an A6 plastic envelope for carrying stuff in my Mulberry!

Well done for finding a good solution for your Malden and at such a great price. I wouldn't be without my plastic pockets in my binder (none of them bought as pockets for binders - all bought as zip-lock bags/pencil cases etc!).

Anthony Hill (2012-10-04 15:03:56)

What genius, seems like the perfect solution. It's nice to see your purple Malden. Thank you for sharing your idea.

Tina (2012-10-04 21:46:22)

Epic hack!

Anita (2012-10-05 10:26:55)

Thanks, Anthony. How is the crimson Malden doing? :)

Anthony Hill (2012-10-05 15:52:50)

It's great thanks Anita, my favourite of all and holds pride of place. The texture of the binder is really tactile it's

really nice to hold.

sandhya bandi (2012-10-16 01:36:50)

Thanks for sharing. Multiflex is a pioneer in the field of packing materials manufacturing and providing packing solutions to our valued clients. We are renowned since 2003 for our products such as Shopping Carry Bags, Plastic Carry Bags, Food Packaging Bags, Polythene Bags, and Chemical Packaging Bags that fulfills the packing needs of our customers with maximized efficiency and quality. [1]Plastic Carry Bags

1. <http://www.globalpackaging-industry.com/products-services/printed-polythene-bags/multiflex/>

Smurfette (2012-12-05 04:32:53)

Great idea Anita! I will be copying that :) thank you!

Free For All Friday No. 203 (2012-10-05 00:00) - Anita Lim

Happy World Teachers' Day!

More information can be found at [1]<http://www.5oct.org>

I thought for this FFAF I'd have a little delve into the Filofaxy archives to see what was being posted on or around the 5th October in previous years.

- 5th October 2011 - [2]My Malden Family
- 5th October 2010 - [3]Personal size leather Filofax with notepad?
- 6th October 2009 - [4]Is it time to put your Filofax on a diet?
- 8th October 2008 - [5]Pocket Fitness
- 16th October 2007 - [6]Guest Blog: Laurie Huff
- 6th October 2006 - [7]Where do I put it?
- 31st October 2005 - [8]In the beginning...

I found it quite interesting looking back as it definitely highlights how many more posts are being written these days, for example 41 posts in October 2011 compared with a mere 8 in October 2006!

I hope you have a great weekend, and please feel free to discuss anything Filofax or ring bound planner related.

1. <http://www.5oct.org/>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2011/10/my-malden-family.html>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2010/10/personal-size-leather-filofax-with.html>

4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2009/10/is-it-time-to-put-your-filofax-on-diet.html>

5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2008/10/pocket-fitness.html>

6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2007/10/guest-blog-laurie-huff.html>

7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2006/10/where-do-i-put-it.html>

8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2005/10/in-beginning.html>

Josh (2012-10-05 00:54:36)

That "In the Beginning" post is totally brilliant! I don't think I ever experienced a major digital planner failure, but I certainly know I was never able to make digital systems work well for me. I've tried a few times to do a hybrid system, going as far as to copy ALL of my appointments and recurring events into a google calendar and all of my notes and reference info into Evernote. But I just don't use it properly like I do the filofax. And I really

find that needing to carry my tablet AND my filofax a bit much.

I recently simplified my planner setup somewhat and am very pleased with the result. I had been maintaining a month view with all appointments on it, plus a monthly to do list, and then 2PPD diary, to which I needed to copy everything from the month view on a daily basis. I now just carry a week on two pages with a self-drawn to-do sheet in between. It works really well, and eliminates the need to copy info from one view to another. I just write things once now. Much easier.

Clareio (2012-10-05 03:32:12)

Have any of you used a filofax to plan a wedding? and HOW? I currently can't understand how people do this on anything smaller than A4? And have therefore set up an A4 lever arch file (which is soon to be filled with cream paper and card when I get some...) but what about when i'm at work? I don't think scribbling ideas down on a post it is going to work for me... too many thoughts!

Butanben (2012-10-05 05:48:42)

Fancy not coming across the fact that today is World Teachers' Day to put into October's Shining Hour Blog!!! Happy World Teachers' Day to all fellow Philofaxy Educators out there.... and to all their classes.

DanishGTD (2012-10-05 06:07:18)

Do anyone know what period Filofax produced the Hamilton? My first Filofax that I bought used (really cheap) is a personal Hamilton and I absolutely love the build, quality and layout.

Just wondered how old it might be?

Cheryl (2012-10-05 09:31:15)

Rocking out to Cher Lloyd on the Today show this morning following the 50th anniversary of Love Me Do. We Americans love us some British music sensations. Not sure Ms. Lloyd is a sensation or not but she is a delightful young lady during the interviews. I, myself, am a huge Cold Play fan but I also have little bitty step-granddaughters who love One Direction so of course, I listen to One Direction as well. And Adele. While you may laugh at my musical musings, it is much more entertaining than our recent Presidential debate. :-o

Yesterday I received the A5 Grey Malden. (Thank you, Leah!) It is sitting next to me and I am admiring it as I type. Not sure how I will set this up as of now. As I also have an A5 Chameleon (Aqua) and A5 Finchley (Chocolate), I do need to assign a purpose for each of these otherwise it will drive me crazy as they sit on a shelf with no purpose. I'm sure one will be for crafts, Bible study, a recipe or food journal and/or maybe just a basic journal Filo.

Forgive me if I mentioned this before, but I don't think I did. I recently received a Personal Ranger from a very generous person from England. She found me on one of the blogs mentioning that I would like to get my hands on one of those and she contacted me to say she had one she was no longer using. Incredibly it took less than 10 days to arrive to me in Michigan, USA and so I received it last week. I really like it and for not being leather, it is a very soft and pliable material. It is very rugged looking and the extra pockets are great. I wouldn't have minded if Filofax had made this in a leather version; I can imagine it in a nice pebbly leather which would give it a less rugged look yet make a nice wallet/Filo combo. Since I'm currently using a Compact Chameleon for my everyday Filo, I have loaded up the Ranger with all those extra sections and dividers that don't fit in the Compact. Not having everything with me is driving me crazy but I do like the lightness of the Compact and the loaded Ranger (or any Personal for that matter) does get cumbersome.

Going to have to take a break from Filo buying for awhile. The holidays are coming and it is gift buying season. I have one more Filo on my wish list and then I think I will probably be done for a long while as I don't see anything else in the current offerings that I desperately have to have. But I do want a Personal Malden in Grey (or Crimson if I ever stumble across one and have the extra \$ \$ on hand). All in all, it's been an interesting week. We had a lovely 78 degree sunny fall day yesterday and it will barely reach 50 this weekend. Have a great weekend everyone.

Cheryl (2012-10-05 09:38:29)

I think using a Filofax as a wedding planner is an excellent idea. If you look to the left of this page under Labels you will see the word Wedding. Click on that and it should take you to a post where someone talked about using a Filo for wedding planning. You could also Google that topic and it may take you to one of the blogs that a Philofax member has written a post about that topic. I can see your dilemma; if you are using tear sheets from

magazines you would have to fold them in half to add to the A5. Also, many of the wedding planning workbooks that you can purchase are often the A4 size, but I have seen some smaller wedding planners. (Or you could always use an Ipad or other such tablet as I'm sure there is some type of app for wedding planning). But if you're like me, even though I have a tablet, I like magazines, I like tear sheets and I like to write stuff on paper. Good luck with your wedding planning and do check out that Wedding topic under Labels on this site. :)

LFZ (2012-10-05 10:23:30)

I just recently purchased a mini chameleon and I'm hoping to use it as a wallet. What are the best ways to store credit cards that don't fit in the pockets on the inside cover? (I think there are only 3?) I'm not crafty so DIY is a challenge for me. Any suggestions? thanks!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-05 10:34:08)

I think you can get credit card holders inserts try amazon

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-05 10:35:08)

that credit card holders. or try tesco's clear pencil cases

J (2012-10-05 10:42:14)

Perfect timing! I just got married, and my Filofax was my primary planning tool! I also used one of the more traditional wedding planner binders, but in all honesty it barely got used other than to store invoices, receipts, and tear sheets.

I wrote a post about the set up of my "wedding section" in my Malden here: <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.com/2012-05/wedding-planning-malden-strikes-back.html>

I knew I'd have trouble carrying another binder around, so I just made an "essentials" section in my main binder. I had several different tabbed sections, all which are detailed in the post. It worked perfectly for notes, business cards, etc while I was on the go.

I did have one of the mega planning binders, but found I barely used all of the pre-created sheets in there... most of the checklists, etc were never even filled out. Oh well.

If I were to do it again, I'd honestly just use my Filo, and then maybe get a blank binder and set up my own tabs for tear sheets, invoices, etc.

DanishGTD (2012-10-05 10:44:00)

Just came up with an idea:

A personal-sized notepad attached to a sheet of heavy plastic (like the "today-marker" that can be stuck in front of my Hamilton. This would make up for the fact that I'm always flicking to my notes-section to make a notation. And it could easily be taken out and placed next to my Filo for easy-access-notetaking...

Anyone know if this has been made already?

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-05 11:11:31)

Hey everyone! Does anyone know if the slimline Holborns come with the same pocket layout as the personal Holborns? I.e. the same layout for credit card pockets at the front, and a hidden zipped pocket at the back? Thanks!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-05 11:46:08)

If you had a chance to buy a filo you have wanted for ages, for a killer price, but it wasn't in the colour you wanted, would you compromise?

Anita (2012-10-05 11:50:41)

Hi DanishGTD,

How about this from The Perpetual Student, but using a top opening envelope instead?

[1]<http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2011/05/filofax-hack.html>

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2011/05/filofax-hack.html>

Cheryl (2012-10-05 13:07:35)

Hmmmm, that's a tough one. I just passed up an Ochre Personal at an amazing price on Adspot because I really want a grey one. The difference in price from the gently used one on Adspot and the new one I want is \$50 so I'm thinking now that I could have made a compromise but I was trying to be patient and get what I really want (and hope that it goes on sale soon!)

Cheryl (2012-10-05 13:11:14)

I just received in the mail today some inserts from Filofax (extremely fast shipping). One of the items bought was the cheapo plastic hole punch for the A5. It's all I could afford for now. I know there's been alot written on this blog about various hole punches that everyone favors; I was just wondering if all of them have the 'larger' holes like this plastic one? When the Filofax paper comes pre-punched, the holes are noticeably smaller than the holes the hole punch makes. This is bugging me. So do any of the better metal hole punches (not the Filofax one; I'm not spending \$70.00!) have the smaller holes? I would be buying one in the US.

LJ (2012-10-05 13:12:20)

Ooh - that's a tough one... it would depend if I liked the available colour or not. I'm all for the layout etc, but if it was a colour I just don't actually like at all then there would be no point as it wouldn't get used. In theory I could put stickers and stuff on it if I really didn't like it, but I don't think I could bring myself to do that...

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-05 14:16:01)

It will always be 2nd best...unless it's very close 2nd favourite colour no I wouldn't buy it

Morag (2012-10-05 14:31:03)

I wonder if anyone can help me with printing out A5 size?? I want to print out A5 month on 2 pages like this (the month to view one)

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/02/free-monthly-2012-diary-sets-to.html>

each time I print it comes out full size on A4.

Thanks

Ray Blake (2012-10-05 14:55:35)

All is explained here: [1]<http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>

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

Steve Morton (2012-10-05 15:00:41)

Thanks Ray, you beat me to it!

Steve

Alondra Karwowski (2012-10-05 15:15:26)

I would not make the purchase. The color really is just as important as everything else.

Morag (2012-10-05 15:50:27)

Thank you Ray (and Steve) I'm off to give it a try!

Angel Jem (2012-10-06 00:20:08)

Yes. And keep looking and hoping. It also depends if what I want is available..... A5 crimson Malden not being available I have an A5 purple or a crimson personal, depending on whether size or colour matters more.

And never mind the quality, feel the width. If the price is right.....

Anita (2012-10-06 05:45:30)

Hmm, I would have done years ago but have learnt that this generally isn't successful for me. So, nowadays I buy exactly what I want & have found that I actually save money as I don't regret my purchases :)

DanishGTD (2012-10-06 10:18:54)

Hi Anita, Thanks for pointing me to that post! Great idea by TPS

Important Notice - Please Read (2012-10-05 16:41) - Steve Morton

Firstly I apologise for the length of this post, but I think it is important to share this news with you as part of the Philofaxy community immediately.

A few weeks ago we highlighted [1]this post which featured an interview with the current MD of SlamPR, the PR agency for Filofax in UK.

The bit people didn't like amongst other things was:

Following a usage and attitudes study, we identified that lapsed users and current Filofax users share the same common ground – they like to write notes and are very interested in fashion / stylish accessories. With this in mind we needed to make Filofax fashionable again to recapture this audience's attention, so we set up a fashion-focused press office targeting key fashion and style journalists in aspirational and mainstream media, as well as influential bloggers with style focused tactics to change their perception of the brand.

After a few people moaned and groaned a bit, David Popely one of our readers published this [2]open letter to Slam PR, about 15 other sites also published this letter that week, which was also London Fashion Week and the launch of new Temperley Filofax products.

SlamPR responded in the comments of the above blog post offering a meeting in November.

An email was received yesterday from Slam PR, the content is as follows:

Following on from the recent post by Filofax on David's blog, we would like to invite you to a meeting with a Filofax representative/s on the 19th November at 11am. Note 1
The Philofaxy community is very important to Filofax, however to ensure we make this session as productive as possible we think it's best to limit the number of people attending. We would therefore like to invite five representatives to speak on behalf of the community at this meeting. We will ultimately leave it to you to decide the representatives but we ask that whoever attends expresses not only their own points but those of the community.
We would like to highlight that this meeting will be for Filofax to listen to your ideas and concerns and not to answer questions in relation to the company or its strategic direction.
The forum will be held at a central London location on the 19th November. Note 1
Over the next four weeks it would be useful if you could:

- Decide who will represent the community
- Collate and filter the communities thoughts and concerns
- Share the details of who will be attending with Dee at SLAM PR

Please pass this email onto anyone in the community that is not on this mailing list. Unfortunately we do not have everyone's direct contact details.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Note 1: This date and time has since changed to the following week **26 November** at 2pm at the Conduit Street Store.

A few people were slightly 'upset' at the content of the email and did express their concerns back to SlamPR.....

Then come forward to today, I received a phone call from the Marketing Services Department of Filofax

itself. It was like a breath of fresh air suddenly wafted in to the room! The frustration of the last 18 months of trying to make contact with the inner workings of Filofax melted away and it was like talking to a long lost friend again!

Well nearly an hour later on the phone, we had talked ourselves silly, but it has I think set the way forward from what was a low in our relationship with the company and I can only see it getting better, with us working together with Filofax with a positive attitude.

I discovered that we have quite a few fans in the company....who all got caught out by my [3]French take over joke earlier this week... which made me chuckle!

So the climb to the summit isn't over.... but I think we have established a good footing at base camp.

So can you put your thinking caps on and come up with any ideas, thoughts, concerns you have with anything related to Filofax....

You can leave these in the comments of this post or. Email them to me at: [4]philofaxy [AT] gmail (Dot) com

I will sort this feed back in to different categories so that it is given to the right people within Filofax present at the meeting.

I will be unearthing our 'wish list' from earlier in the year to include in our feedback for the Product Development Team.

David and I have agreed to attend on the 26th November, but would anyone else be interested in attending with us? Again please contact me by email if you are free on the day. The number of people is limited due to the size of the meeting room, but another couple of people should be able to join us.

Again thank you for your time and patience.

Steve

1. http://www.featuresexec.com/bulletin/interview_article.php?id=16422

2. <http://davepopely.wordpress.com/2012/09/18/the-future-of-filofax-an-open-letter-to-helena-bloomer-of-slam-pr/>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/10/a-glimpse-in-to-future.html>

4. <mailto:phi%6cofa%78%79@%67m%61iil.com?subject=Filofax%20Feedback>

Laurie (2012-10-05 16:45:35)

Steve you didn't specify the new date of the meeting

Steve Morton (2012-10-05 16:47:28)

It's in the small font can you not see that? I will revert it to normal font.

I think the same small font caught out the folks at FF UK this week because I used the same font for the disclaimer!

Laurie (2012-10-05 16:49:11)

Oh there I see it, small at the bottom. Overlooked it, sorry!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-05 16:50:15)

wow ... progress indeed Well done...proves that people power does work eventually...Good luck..

Tommes (2012-10-05 16:51:46)

Strange place for such a meeting... Conduit St store's place is pretty limited. Like Neal St or City Organiser. I cannot see how there will be a productive meeting, but I will send my thoughts and suggestions by e-mail...

Thomas

Steve Morton (2012-10-05 16:54:06)

Thanks Thomas

Apparently there is a meeting room in the basement and the product development department and international sales dept above the shop.

I've never been, so it will be a first for me...

Steve

Tommes (2012-10-05 16:58:15)

Looks like they have more space since it is being the new, one and only store... ;-) But generally it's very nice there!

I will send my wish list by mail!

Best regards, Thomas

Sandra (2012-10-05 17:18:57)

How exciting! I know some staffers at Filofax USA love you guys. Smart. Good luck!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-05 17:24:22)

Interesting development Steve - I do hope it is the start of a new relationship. I think you have my comments from previous emails which are:

Ring Quality

Binder Quality

Range of Inserts (ever reducing)

Insert Paper Quality

Website Management (not up to date)

Difficulty in getting hold of time management inserts

Marketing - introduce a planning /organising strand (I have loads of ideas around this - they could do a great blog as well)

Jim Dale (2012-10-05 17:55:02)

They need planners that can hold smart phones. They could even incorporate holders inside A5's for small tablets; I'd much rather have a planner/tablet holder than just a tablet and leather cover.

I heard they closed a store in London? I think retail stores are a great way to promote a product and if run properly they could even break even or profit for the company; Erin and I'd be glad to help with on in San Francisco :)

kanalt (2012-10-05 18:46:41)

Oh man, I have so many ideas - tabbed months (grid style) that can be interleaved with the daily/weekly inserts being at the top. A daily layout more like FC. Inserts and tabs that have a little more pizzazz.

But I have to say that while Filofax US does have great customer service when there is a problem (in my experience), they don't do much to reach out to their customers. They used to have their own Facebook page and twitter feeds but I believe they have been consolidated. And when they were separate, they didn't do anything with those pages. I wish there was more involvement from the company within the US. I wish they offered the same product lines as other places. I wish you could "borrow" items to test drive them since stores that carry their products are few and far between.

I'm sure there are many more items on my wish list, but this is what is lingering at the top of my head.

Great work! I'm glad to see that David's post has paid off (results as yet to be seen). Hats off to you!!!

kanalt (2012-10-05 18:47:37)

PS - I would love to go to the meeting, but obviously that won't happen.

Butanben (2012-10-05 19:37:22)

This sounds such a positive step forwards! Well done our Steve and David!! I'll mail you with my thoughts and 'hapenth worth of ideas for the meeting!! xxxx

EmmaNoey (2012-10-05 19:49:54)

The difference in the ring mechanism between my vintage Winchester and my Malden is striking. The Winchester's rings are a joy to open and close- such ease and obvious quality. I love and use the Malden for its other qualities, but opening and closing the rings requires real effort and causes the binder to jump in my hands. The action on

the Winchester's ring mechanism is smooth. I love to use it.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-10-05 21:18:26)

Wow, Steve! If I could afford to go, I'd be there.

Tracy

Laura @ Twenty5seven (2012-10-05 21:36:51)

Even in fashion, there are the classic big-spend 'investment' pieces (the suit, the designer jeans, the leather shoes, good underwear, well-fitted blouses, gold jewellery) and then there are the cheap, throw-away 'du jour' items that change each season- the colourful, plastic jewellery, cheap on-trend shirts, cheap shoes etc.

A filofax is an investment piece. A classic. You don't mess with the classics, you mess with the throwaways.

In my opinion, if the research has shown that users are often somewhat creative types who are interested in fashion, beauty, hand-drawn markings (or that creative types are drawn to the Filofax) and they (filofax/slam pr) are trying to market filofax to these people and a younger market then they are completely missing their target.

Creative people want to be unique, individual, they're used to creating what they want. In addition, there is currently a return to old fashioned style.

Surely the ideal way to approach this is to have the filofax as the investment piece- the GOOD QUALITY, classic timeless piece that harks back to yesteryear and grows with the owner. And the 'filling' is the throw-away (literally!) and can be super on-trend. Additionally, the filofax and it's range of accessories allow customers to build themselves a bespoke organiser unique to their style and life.

My advice to SlamPR and Filofax would be to concentrate on the quality of the actual organisers which are naturally an investment piece and a 'label' people want to show off. And to also concentrate on the design and range of accessories- for both traditional and modern users. And to emphasise the ability to personalise and customise the filofax for modern users.

crofter (2012-10-05 21:50:49)

Steve—are you sure this wasn't another one of your dreams?? It almost seems too good to be true!! Kudos to you and David, maybe it is true that the squeaking wheel gets the grease. I am going to make a list to pass along to you over the next week or so, but maybe we are making progress after all.

Maybe it is me that is dreaming!! Just too good to be true.

michele (2012-10-05 22:32:16)

Wonderful news! Kudos to David's letter!

Angel Jem (2012-10-06 00:13:57)

That is such a sensible comment... The binder should be classic, well made and an investment piece, like a classic trench coat or a posh handbag, while inserts could be so much funkier, adapted to different ages and needs and give proper adaptability.

LJ (2012-10-06 00:40:07)

That is so true - surely the inserts are cheaper for them to make anyway, so it wouldn't be a total disaster if a particular design didn't take off fantastically well. I'd like the option of quality inserts, and also a bit of variety just so lighten up the day.

LJ (2012-10-06 00:43:01)

I would really love the opportunity to represent the Philofaxy community too, although I think I'd struggle to do the 26th as we have our monthend close 2 days later... the 19th would have been perfect for me. I'm sure I can just work more hours the rest of the week if you need me, although there are probably plenty of willing volunteers based in the UK to attend the meeting. LJx

Hamish MacBear (2012-10-06 03:37:20)

If Filofax want to be serious about being seen as an "Organiser" and "Time Management" company, they need to not only re-instate the Time Management system, but market it properly on the main website (not hide it away so

that no-one knows it exists) and they need to make the excellent inserts available to all users, not just the Time Management system users.

Filofax say the Time Management system doesn't sell and that they are discontinuing it, but it is an excellent system and I am sure it would sell well if they bothered to market it on the main website.

The Time Management inserts - diaries and excellent inserts like monthly objectives - are my inserts of choice and would make Filofax stand out from the crowd as a company serious about planning and organisation, not just some fashion toy to be used at London Fashion week and then sold on eBay!

Can you point out to Filofax, please that I bought a Personal Osterley which had been given to someone for London Fashion Week and promptly sold on eBay because the person had no interest in a Filofax. I got it for a bargain, which was good for me, but ultimately it shows that Filofax's new fashion branding is just not working.

janet (2012-10-06 04:13:51)

Wow wow wow well done! I think they should look away from collaborations with fashion designers like Temperley and towards limited editions with other stationery and organizer names like Moleskine, Franklin Covey etc. If H and M can collaborate with Karl Lagerfeldt and Jimmy Choo, then anything is possible. Also to repeat the pleas we have made over and over again - better paper and better inserts.

Jenna (2012-10-06 04:36:15)

SLIMLINE A5 PLEASE! :)

Ruby Scarlett (2012-10-06 04:38:57)

Most people don't collect Filofaxes. They buy one and then change the inserts once a year. I don't know about you but when I'm going to buy something that is going to be used every day for years, I don't buy it in highlighter pink. My partner is thinking about offering me an iPad this Christmas. The second I knew that, I went to check the new Pennybridge with iPad holder. What a disappointment that was! Launching an organizer/iPad holder is a good idea but the colours available are a joke. Black is standard, but violet and bright red? Are you serious? I wanted a saddle brown, a smooth cream, something that would stand the test of time and still be beautiful. No Pennybridge for me, then.

I'd also like daily cotton cream inserts or just better paper really and for them to offer the option of either having the days printed back to back or not (that would mean twice as many pages, then so be it). If they offered that I wouldn't need to print my own. Same with a good time management system and a productivity/goal oriented insert. I want to buy printed inserts from them so bad but the range is very limited and the paper quality is so poor.

I have little hope for all this though as I know their marketing strategy at the moment is all about new fashionable organizers with a limited range of inserts. It's a shame as I don't know of any other company that makes flexible leather organizers with rings.

Oh and I'm a 24-year-old woman if that helps any.

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-06 05:48:59)

Ruby your beautiful, of course people collect filofaxes just because you and I don't doesn't mean other people don't...like people collect shoes and handbags....But you see I hate saddle brown and black there boring just as purple, pink and other colours are boring to you... maybe it's because I work in an accounts firm and lets face it often accountants = boring and sometimes to stand out means colour...Saddle brown means cautious never going against the tide well my job means sometimes you have to..

LJ (2012-10-06 05:57:52)

Yay!!!

Alison (2012-10-06 14:54:01)

Quality Inserts and Compact A5 in a range of colours is all I ask for oh and never discontinue the Holborn!!

WeirdRockStar (2012-10-06 15:11:50)

I would love Filofax to be the Birkin of organizers. Just with no waiting line and less zeros, that is.

Good quality binders and better paper. It is my understanding that FF- users are often interested in stationary. Perhaps the answer to infuse the fashion forward- ideas would be to create a set of inserts (and update those at will) for color-seeking, sticker friendly folks and another, more subdued line for professional use, menfolk and us grumptastic peeps with no sense of humor. Or stickers.

Just a thought.

WE WANT OLD BINDER QUALITY BACK!

Savannah (2012-10-06 17:49:43)

I suppose you'll have to do a long standing poll to get democratic results from a large group of people?

These are issues I think are very important:

- 1) The ring defect problem has to stop
- 2) The quality of the ring mechanism as a whole must improve.
- 3) Since many planner users do in fact like to write, the quality of the paper must improve. I'm not particular about it being fountain pen friendly, in fact I think this may be a problem because the pages would have to be so thick that you would be very limited by the amount of pages you can put in your binder, unless there are thin paper alternatives out there. More importantly, I want the paper to be pleasing to write on with a quality ballpoint pen.
- 4) General craftsmanship and build quality needs to be improved.
- 5) The thickness and quality of leather needs to be improved with less processing with an eye toward longevity.
- 6) More functional interiors like notepad pockets in the rear and a secretarial pocket in the front that you can actually easily slip odds and ends in.

There are alot of little particulars that might be perceived as preferences that I won't be including at this time.

I wish you luck and am happy that your activism may get results.

Butanben (2012-10-06 19:04:59)

Savannah.... spot on!!! As are the folks that say quality and longevity should remain in the binder but bags of fashion and traditional alternatives in the inserts, tabs and diaries, to suit male, female, young, old, pastels, vibrant, cream and white paper tastes. Bespoke. Creativity in the contents and tradition, class, style and hard wearing in the binder. Form and function.... and PLEEEASE every style in every size and colour and ring mechanisms that work smoothly and align. Oh, and *grovel, grovel* an A5 crimson Malden!!!!

amanda (2012-10-06 19:05:09)

Yes yes yes. This.

amanda (2012-10-06 19:11:08)

Yes yes yes. This.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-10-07 04:18:16)

I agree with pretty much all the comments, especially those regarding paper and binder quality. They need to be more adventurous with their diary formats and take note from Steve & Ray's designs. I really think though that they're onto a winner with the slimlines (personal and A5), yet they're so overlooked. See my comment at point 3 of my Spotlight post here for further details:

<http://www.philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/08/reader-under-spotlight-1-ucy.html>

Ruby Scarlett (2012-10-07 04:29:37)

Deborah Jane, collectors are by definition rare. The majority of people who buy planners buy one planner, I think, and I said 'most people'. Of course there are going to be collectors but I don't think they're the majority.

Steve asked for our opinions and that's mine, I think that if you agree that most people will buy just the one planner and then buy inserts (I don't fall into that category, but I notice what people buy and I'm sure Filofax does too), it makes more sense to have a vast range of colours for a few quality planners, as opposed to a tonne of planners in just three colours that have a very limited range of inserts.

I disagree with you about saddle brown but that's a matter of taste :) To be honest I prefer chestnut but oh well.

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-07 05:59:39)

Ruby...Ruby ...Ruby...Believe it or not, we are on the same page, just approaching it from different ends...thats all.. and it is ok to like any shade of brown black etc... just like I like colour... I guess down to age when diaries were nowhere near as colourful as they are today is why I have an aversion to those colours and yes your 24 and its fine to like chestnut brown as I am near the magical age the number which is allegedly the answer to everything....42....I'm not saying your boring, and as this is a free country (allegedly) you can like whatever you like and so can I...regarding collectors I have no idea on percentages and how many would you need to become one(but on the fb pages there does seem a lot). Yes, there must be choice on materials used and inserts that goes without saying....and what I'm about to say does taste like vinegar even to me...but a company and not just filofax has to make a decision regarding how many colours they do with a new product...so they met three people like me.. forgetting that the basic colours..ie chestnut brown...black ...navy...cream (I agree on cream like that one)The reason I said saddle brown is because you mentioned it...Moving forward...LOL..I bought my sweet filofax(3 with the comined cost of £45) bearing in mind no one would ever make the inserts I would like,(november to january day to 2 pages and the rest of the year week to 2 pages) so I when the time comes in 2014 when my inserts end I will make my own...and I wouldn't be surprised if a percentage do that do too ...which means less demand, which is sad because it ends up no one happy..The reason I call black and brown safe colours because they go with everything, theres nothing wrong with cautious, dependable, stable and wisdom. These colours some would say are no brainers because they do probably last never the height of fashion but never out of fashion. But what you have to realise my sweet young thing is I don't read your messages with your voice and you don't read mine with my voice. So may we agree to disagree and may the odds be forever in your favour in finding the nirvana of personal organisation... it is out there somewhere...honestly it is...even in chestnut brown and even in purple..Peace love happiness

Anthony Hill (2012-10-07 16:09:48)

I also agree with all of the above, just to reiterate concentrate on the quality control, a prioity, ring mechanisms misaligned how many times has that point been raised and paper quality let's see something in the order of 90gms

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-10-08 06:33:35)

Good paper quality. I don't especially want the weight of the paper to go up, just the quality. For example, I can write perfectly well on BOTH sides of Basildon Bond airmail paper in fountain pen, and the paper is nowhere near 90gsm. Conversely, I have some 90gsm paper which soaks up ink like it's blotting paper. I would like to have thin/light paper which allows me to write in pen. Other companies manage it! In fact, the £1 cheapo diary I bought recently had thin paper and did better with fountain pens than filofax paper, so it's not even the cost!

Mark Doherty (2012-10-08 08:03:38)

Time management inserts...it seems as if they are being discontinued. The TM week to a view diary are nearly perfect for me...FiloFax is about time management...keep producing these inserts and advertise them on the main site!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-10-08 10:22:17)

Oh, and make *all* of the products available on *all* of the websites. I just don't buy the argument about cost-analysis and it being too expensive to produce some inserts, when some of them are only produced in French or Danish etc. and (no offence AT ALL to the French or the Danes or the etc.s) that just HAS to be a smaller market than all of the UK and all of the US.

So if an insert can be made for those markets (French, Danish, etc.), surely it can be made available to all markets? Mind you, it wouldn't have taken a genius at Filofax to have realised that Philofaxy exists and frequently asks us what we would like, thereby providing exquisitely valuable focus-group feedback *for nothing*! And that we have asked for this a zillion times already.

Okay. Rant over. For now.

:-)

Gwen McKerrell (2012-10-08 11:53:43)

Hi

I would like to see some 30 or 32mm rings on Zipped Personal Size Organisers as per the now discontinued Durham.

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-09 05:46:40)

Firstly, I agree with all the comments here about the general quality of manufacturing - the ring issues, zip issues, fading issues... all need to stop. I also think the quality of the punches needs to improve radically.

Following on from the brilliant post on student FF users, I also really think that FF should focus much more on the student market - with binders, inserts and accessories all tailored to the academic year and market - and do all the binders really cost so much to produce that even the non-leather ones need to be so expensive? And my own personal opinion here; student shouldn't equal Apex!

Good quality paper - Another fountain pen user here who would like to be able to use up any inserts I have without being restricted to that single magic ink Noodler's BPB (Which I *love* but I want more colour in my FF!).

Accessories - more colours please! Can we please have things like coloured page markers? And top-tabbed dividers? Supply binders empty at a lower cost or with credit to choose inserts - We like to make something that suits us, and surely there's a lot of waste from the supplied diaries in particular - especially if you buy from a shop where the binder has been sitting for a few months so that half the inserts are out of date.

I also agree - the Time Management inserts are one of the most worthwhile FF make, and probably the only FF diary I would consider actually buying because of the time saved on printing, cutting and punching, though I still think the prices are too high.

A5 slimlines that don't cost the earth - PLEASE!!!

Organise the UK website (I can't speak for the others :)) Why don't the compacts even have a section of their own, why are TM inserts tucked away where no one can find them?

I apologise for the laundry list and I'm sure I've missed something...

Unknown (2012-10-09 21:11:24)

If you want more colour - check out the range of Taschen diaries. If Filofax want to be more 'fashionable' they should have a tie up with Taschen. Their diaries have really beautiful photography. The only pity is that incompatible size.... I would re-punch them in a filofax...

Unknown (2012-10-09 21:28:41)

I am frustrated with Filofax. They produce A4 filofax binders, which are expensive and heavy as a brick. They don't make a lightweight / flexi A4 filofaxes. The A4 Filofax range is not very portable.

I used to carry around a separate (personal) Filofax and A4 notebook. But I want to combine these into one. But options don't exist.

I want 'week per page' in A4 format. My diary needs are not that high. However, I produce a lot of A4 notes and I want to file a lot of A4 papers / bills to pay / letters to deal with in a filofax. It would be nice if Filofax produced something to meet the needs of people like me.

For instance, I have printed e-tickets for an event, and it is nice if I can file it in a A4 Filofax.

At the moment, I have bought a cheap flexi A4 binder from Rymans. I like the fact, that I can roll the binder, but it does not provide support for writing (so need rigidity).

Steve Morton (2012-10-11 13:14:02)

Have you looked at our own Diary inserts? They are all in A4/A5 format. Easy to print in A4 format and cheap to punch.

Steve

SSA (2012-10-13 02:42:49)

An option to choose from a list what inserts you receive with a new binder. I personally do not need A-Z tabs and address sheets, nor will I use the WO2P vertical that comes standard with A5 and A4. Apart from being a waste of paper it also ends up costing me more because I have to then go ahead and buy a separate diary insert for more

money. The 4 sheets of colored paper, the 2 financial sheets. These are all 'testers' for the new to Filofax user (which I believe most filofax users aren't). They could off the 'starter pack' (testers) or one could CHOOSE a diary format with a new binder, and CHOOSE what color note paper they want. Plus as everyone else said, insert range, paper quality, COTTON CREAM range.

Cruz Johnson (2012-10-25 23:16:55)

Or even better, ONE website available in multiple languages, with every different insert offered! A lot of people are multilingual these days, so certain inserts being offered only in particular languages needn't be a problem! For instance, I'd love the chance to have a fully-Frenchified Filofax, as it would offer me the chance to learn a bit more of the language and keep me thinking about it even when I'm out of the classroom.

Web Finds - 6 October 2012 (2012-10-06 00:00) - Steve Morton

So the end of another long week, a busy week in Philofaxy world certainly! Time to wind down and enjoy some great Filofax Blog posts.

1. [1]Form over Function – Is Being Fashionable Really Enough to Innovate a Brand? - More than just a logo
2. [2]The Future of Paper Planners - Quo Vadis
3. [3]Giant Planning - Well Planned Life
4. [4]Ring Problems - Quality Control Issues - Filofax - Imysworld
5. [5]Filofax Fail - Lady Tamlynn
6. [6]What's in My Purple A5 Finsbury - PART 2 - The beginnings of a Filo-Fanatic
7. [7]La filofax di mio figlio (13 anni) yeeeeeee - Mamma StressFilofaxATA
8. [8]september "can't live withouts" - Paper Lovestory
9. [9]ALL STARS GUEST POST - DELIGHTED - Her Pen Collection - Imysworld
10. [10]Wanna join the Franklin Covey frenzy...? - We really didn't need another Filofax blog
11. [11]1/10/2012 - 7/10/2012 settimana Filofax Ottobre - Mamma STRESSfilofaxATA
12. [12]What Filofax inserts were they using, 84 years ago? The 1928 Catalogue - The Musings of Max
13. [13]Have I Damaged My Child? - LJ's Blog of Stuff
14. [14]My filofaxes – where are they now? (part 1)
15. [15]October, 3/31: Favourite Filofaxes - Notes in a Filofax
16. [16]Where to next? - Imysworld
17. [17]365/30: Favourite Filofaxes - Filomaniac
18. [18]review: paperchase refills - Paper Lovestory
19. [19]Desperate need of organizational help! - Lime Tree
20. [20]Possible Solution! - Imysworld
21. [21]365/30 lists - day 3 - Anita Lim

22. [22]Download and print grid paper for your Filofax - My Life All in One Place
23. [23]365/30 lists - day 4 - Anita Lim
24. [24]365/30: Five most craved Filofaxes - Filomaniac
25. [25]Desert Island Blogs: Philofaxy - Planet Millie
26. [26]Filofax vs Mulberry - Belira's Corner
27. [27]Top Tabs à la Angela - Vanjilla
28. [28]My Filofax Is Helping Me With My Finances - Glossette
29. [29]Anatomy of my Filofax: Dividers - The Storage Studio
30. [30]Filofax as Household Binder - The Storage Studio
31. [31]In My Mailbox: A New Filo (&it's PINK!) - Wandrrlust
32. [32]Filofax - Dinosaur or Renaissance? - Cloudberry Musings
33. [33]Homemade Diary Stickers for my Filofax - Behind my Purpley Life
34. [34]Filofax Dividers - The Paper Journal
35. [35]organisational procrastination, or; how i became obsessed with filofax - and then she read
36. [36]finsbury love - and then she read
37. [37]Leaving on a Jet Plane - The Zeigeist of Zoe
38. [38]New Stamps and New Japanese Sushi Gift Set - Filofax Love
39. [39]Long time no blog... - Honey and Filofaxes

And here are this weeks Video Finds

IFRAME: [40]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/YaXDvnF3EMY?rel=0>

IFRAME: [41]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/KHQVdnQD6II?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://ukbrandstrategy.com/2012/10/02/form-over-function-is-being-fashionable-really-enough-to-innovate-a-brand/>
2. <http://quovadisblog.com/2012/10/02/the-future-of-paper-planners/>
3. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/giant-planning.html>
4. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/ring-problems-quality-controll-issues.html>
5. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-fail.html>
6. <http://beginningofafilofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/10/whats-in-my-purple-a5-finsbury-part-2.html>
7. <http://mammastressataxd.blogspot.fr/2012/09/la-filofax-di-mio-figlio-13-anni.html>
8. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/september-cant-live-withouts.html>
9. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/all-stars-guest-post-delighted-her-pen.html>
10. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/10/wanna-join-franklin-covey-frenzy.html>
11. <http://mammastressataxd.blogspot.fr/2012/10/1102012-7102012-settimana-filofax.html>
12. <http://musingsofmax.wordpress.com/2012/10/02/what-filofax-inserts-were-they-using-84-years-ago-the-1928-catalogue/>
13. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/10/have-i-damaged-my-child.html>
14. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-filofaxes-where-are-they-now-part-1.html>
15. <http://notesinafilofax.wordpress.com/2012/10/03/october-331-favourite-filofaxes/>

16. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/where-to-next.html>
17. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/36530-favourite-filofaxes.html>
18. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/review-paperchase-refills.html>
19. <http://limetreefruits.com/2012/10/02/desperate-need-of-organizational-help/>
20. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/possible-solution.html>
21. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.fr/2012/10/36530-lists-day-3.html>
22. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/download-and-print-grid-paper-for-your.html>
23. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.fr/2012/10/36530-lists-day-4.html>
24. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/36530-five-most-craved-filofaxes.html>
25. <http://mslogica.com/?p=6436>
26. <http://belzira.blogspot.com/2012/10/filofax-vs-mulberry.html>
27. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/10/top-tabs-la-angela.html>
28. <http://makeupgeeek.wordpress.com/2012/10/04/my-filofax-is-helping-me-with-my-finances/>
29. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/06/anatomy-of-my-filofax-dividers.html>
30. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-as-household-binder.html>
31. <http://wandrrlust.org/2012/10/05/in-my-mailbox-a-new-filo-its-pink/>
32. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-dinosaur-or-renaissance.html>
33. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/homemade-diary-stickers-for-my-filofax.html>
34. <http://thepaperjournal.wordpress.com/2012/10/03/filofax-dividers/>
35. <http://andthensheread.com/2012/09/21/organisational-procrastination-or-how-i-became-obsessed-with-filofax/>
36. <http://andthensheread.com/2012/10/01/finsbury-love/>
37. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/10/05/leaving-on-a-jet-plane/>
38. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/10/05/new-stamps-and-new-japanese-sushi-gift-set/>
39. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.fr/2012/10/long-time-no-blog.html>
40. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/YaXDvnF3EMY?rel=0>
41. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/KHQVdnQD6LI?rel=0>

LJ (2012-10-06 00:50:42)

This is just what I need this morning :o) And thanks for including my latest offering :o)

Jy11 (2012-10-06 01:27:23)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Lime Tree (2012-10-06 01:29:06)

opsis! That was me!

so here we go again:

”Thank you Steve for adding my link! :)”

Lime Tree (2012-10-06 13:30:11)

I like how my link reads ”desperate need of organizational help” and right below reads ”possible solution!” from Imysworld :D

Steve Morton (2012-10-06 13:31:20)

I didn’t notice!

Ikat Temperley Filofax review (2012-10-07 00:30) - Laurie

Many thanks to Filofax and SlamPR for sending me this Filofax on temporary loan to review. I know there has been a lot of buzz about the Temperley range so I hope this review will give people some insight into this organizer.

This is the yellow Ikat organizer from the Temperley collection. The Ikat design is based on ikat fabric,

which you can [\[1\]click here to read more about](#). I happen to have some ikat fabric from Indonesia, which I used as the backdrop in these photos.



[2]

The Ikat is a clutch-style zip-around binder that you can use as a combination wallet/ organizer. It has removable compact size rings so that you can use it as your planner during the day, then remove your planner and use it as a clutch/ wallet for evening.



[3]

Something I didn't notice until Rebecca Jay pointed it out to me is that the decorative button on the zip tab points into the side of the clutch when it's zipped closed and held as normal.



[4]

The only way for the button to be visible when the clutch is zipped shut is if you hold it so that the zip pull dangles.



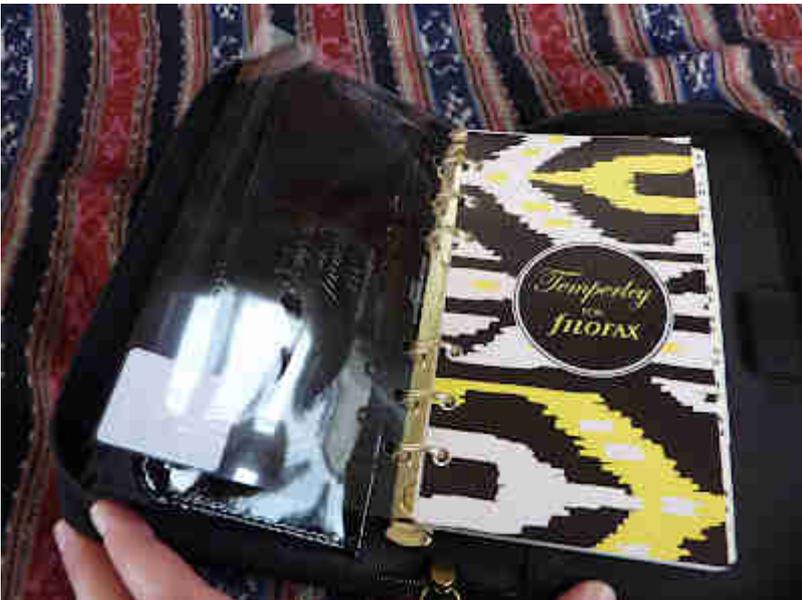
[5]

In the Filofax press photos the Ikat binders are shown with the zip at the top right corner of the binder and the decorative button showing. But in order for this to happen, the binder would have to be partially unzipped. A small detail, but if you are considering buying this binder you might want to be aware of it. Below is a detail of the decorative button on the zip.



[6]

The zip pull, outside edges and inside panel are faux patent leather. The plastic flyleaf sticks to the faux patent leather panel when opened.



[7]

Here is a detailed view of the faux patent leather panel.



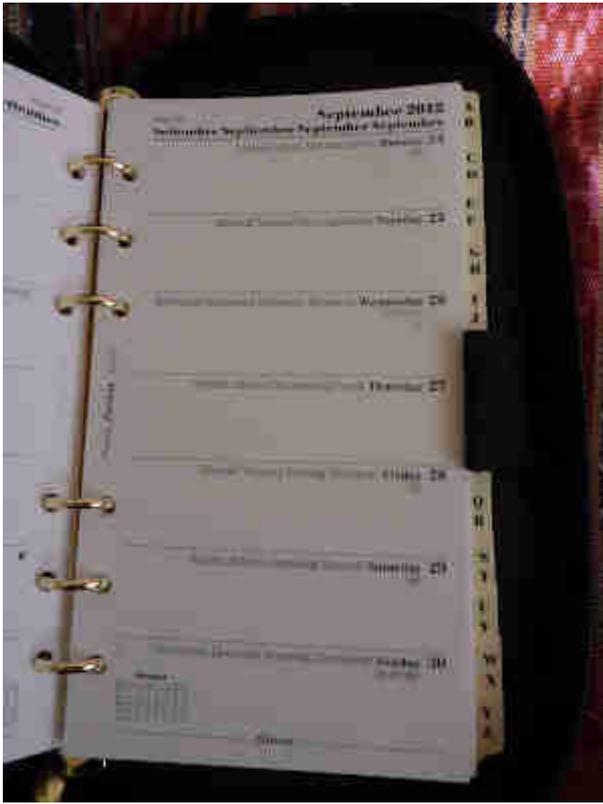
[8]

Behind the panel are numerous card slots and pockets, allowing you to use this binder as a purse/ wallet.



[9]

This sample did not come with the Temperley pages, but included a week per page diary and A-Z tabs.



[10]

According to the writeup provided by SlamPR, the Temperley Ikat binders come supplied with:

Temperley for Filofax designed front sheet and handwritten note from Alice Temperley

Illustrated 2013 calendar block pages

Illustrated star signs and Chinese Zodiac years

Birthday pages

To do lists

Addresses and contacts

Luxury black paper tabbed indices, with gold embossed text

Luxury black paper A-Z indices, with gold embossed text

2013 week on one page diary

Black ruler with gold print

World map

They also come with a card that warns you not to get the Ikat fabric wet or the colors may run or transfer to other fabrics. This binder did not come with the warning card, but I've seen photos of them online from retailers.

The gold rings are compact size, which means they hold personal size pages but the rings are smaller than those in a personal size binder. The rings are attached to a plastic card that slides out of the binder, so you can remove your pages and use the binder as a clutch.



[11]

Here is a side view of the rings on the card, removed from the binder.



[12]

Below is an interior view of the binder with the rings removed. The pen loop at the right is elasticated fabric. Aside from the faux patent leather panel, the rest of the interior is fabric.



[13]

One of the issues with the removable rings is that the card slides around easily when turning pages, opening the binder and any handling. To find out why, I took a closer look at the insertion slot.



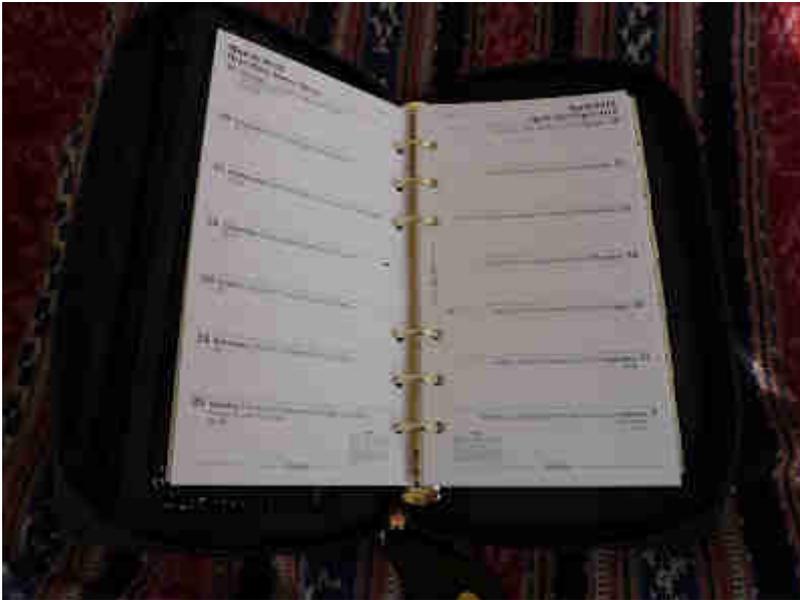
[14]

The rings card does not fit snugly into the slot, allowing the rings card to move around easily during use. This could have been prevented by using a fitted slot for the rings.

The rings on this sample open and close without gaps, which is good news. I've heard last year's Temperley binders had problems with gapping rings and many had to be returned.

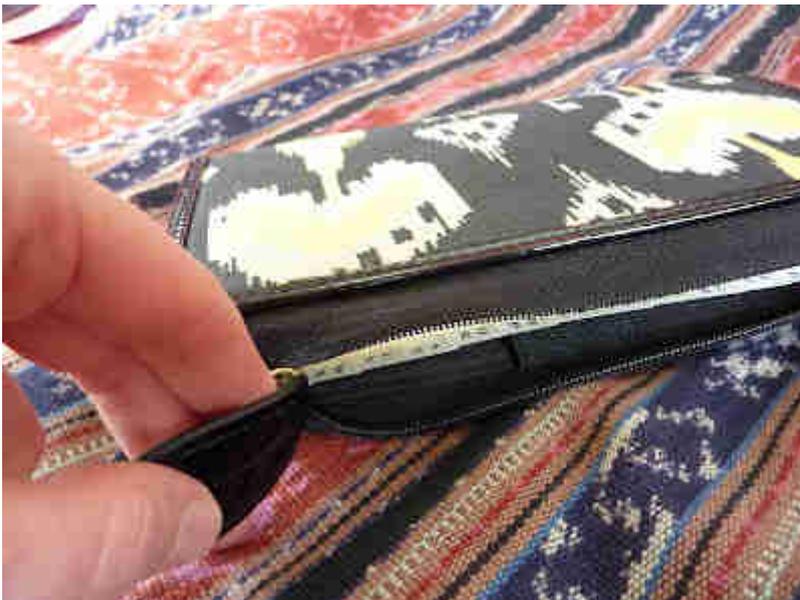
Here is the binder open with the rings and pages in. For those of you who look for a binder that lays flat,

I can tell you this one is not completely flat immediately but does stay open fine. I don't know if it would eventually lay flat with use.



[15]

One major issue, in my opinion, is that the zipper is hard to zip closed around the corners of the binder. It catches and requires some coaxing to get around the curves. The fabric gaps around the zipper, and to get it shut I had to pull the fabric taught behind the zipper.



[16]

This happened at the top curve too.



[17]

I don't know if the zipper would work more smoothly after some use.

The Temperley organizers are available on the [18]Filofax website and are limited-edition.

Many thanks again to Filofax and SlamPR for loaning me this binder to review. At this time I still have this binder and am happy to answer any questions about it.

1. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ikat>
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-gxJdImPa7ck/UG1wrlC_wcI/AAAAAAAAEQ8/Dn3fRjwcYNQ/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+002.JPG
3. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-YTTJ7SHBhrw/UG1xTlucD8I/AAAAAAAAERI/2-ftjnIjnqk/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+003.JPG>
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-KJ5eoX44A2w/UG1wG2A7y_I/AAAAAAAAEQ0/1_YKSQXEz7w/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+001.JPG
5. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-t68tr5og9CI/UG1x_3iEkTI/AAAAAAAAERQ/X6UVjmgctdo/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+004.JPG
6. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-zTpb28s546Y/UG1ym_JBCVI/AAAAAAAAERc/OC1-g2U-mMY/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+005.JPG
7. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-73z63i15xP8/UG1zQUE9g_I/AAAAAAAAERk/MangP7fWUig/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+006.JPG
8. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-3lHxPTDr8sQ/UG1z6l1hko0I/AAAAAAAAERw/3QZrf2qEUvE/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+007.JPG>
9. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-MlXQepoQi0o/UG10inqDhvI/AAAAAAAAER4/-1buoGKkokw/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+008.JPG>
10. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-5hQ6Qr0ir00/UG10-vInRcI/AAAAAAAAESA/SwG3svHghmM/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+009.JPG>
11. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-4NJY79N9fuk/UG118zxAMJI/AAAAAAAAESU/5fho2vBVkrQ/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+010.JPG>
12. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-tJVb4kz_hFY/UG12lnc6dII/AAAAAAAAESc/sK1SvWCdXgc/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+011.JPG
13. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5VFbH8vRBHI/UG13MInnXkI/AAAAAAAAESo/TwqvTIOMH7M/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+012.JPG>
14. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-CS1vK17yTGw/UG14PLF1IBI/AAAAAAAAES4/NZB-p7v8Nk8/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+013.JPG>
15. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-wZ7aytTyXJk/UG14piz-KMI/AAAAAAAAETE/ln9lxyzfMBBk/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+014.JPG>
16. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-WlQP1rdzVEc/UG15H0-K39I/AAAAAAAAETM/dGDGpd3GZW4/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+015.JPG>
17. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-HsAcwzYz5A0/UG15g3LabaI/AAAAAAAAETU/ODDiHXQuMU/s1600/2012-10-01+2012-10-01+001+016.JPG>

001+016.JPG

18. <http://tidd.ly/a8e1070b>

MTMTE (2012-10-07 00:47:36)

Wow, I'm amazed at the number of practical flaws in this product...you'd think the up-market designer would be a little more careful; that ring-card and its loose fit is downright ridiculous. Furthermore...how in heaven's name would this be a useful clutch bag for a night on the town? Anything held inside (i.e. once the rings are out) would fall out, surely.

This looks worse than the Apex in terms of design...at least the Apex could serve its target market, whereas everything about the ikat looks wrong.

icclewu (2012-10-07 02:00:42)

I don't understand why they didn't send you the temperley inserts???? They have defectively sent you an ugly version of the Pennybridge to review?!! Xx :)

icclewu (2012-10-07 02:02:02)

Effectively not defectively. Damn autocorrect :) xx

Ray Blake (2012-10-07 02:28:22)

Autocorrect or Freudian slip?

Ray Blake (2012-10-07 02:31:11)

Laurie, could you take the rings insert and try fitting it in an internal Flex pocket please?

icclewu (2012-10-07 02:44:46)

Haha ;) xx

Cloudberry (2012-10-07 02:46:23)

I saw the Ikat 'in the flesh' while browsing CO. I thought it was an odd concept.

By day, I have no need for a FF with such a large wallet attachment that the FF component is so reduced that it is unusable for my needs. By night, there is little space for a powder compact and lipstick with the FF section in, but take it out and you've lost your diary (to note down a hot date).

Personally, the colour and pattern do not work for me as a bag or as a FF. I felt that shiny patent bits made it look cheap. Having examined it 'in the flesh' I returned it to the shelf and purchased something else.

Sorry FF but I shall not be buying one.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-10-07 04:10:57)

That truly is ghastly. It just looks like a Pennybridge that's been covered in fabric that somebody's nicked from a bus seat. I'll pass thanks!

Ling (2012-10-07 04:27:05)

And in an A5 flex if you happen to have one?

David Popely (2012-10-07 06:05:31)

So....a patterned cloth binder/wallet/purse/bag that isn't colourfast. That's really going to work well in the British climate. Genius....

Ray Blake (2012-10-07 06:15:44)

Yes, that aspect does seem quite poorly-conceived, doesn't it?

David Popely (2012-10-07 06:20:50)

I'm sure the fashionistas will manage to get it to their chauffeured limousines without damage....

WeirdRockStar (2012-10-07 06:40:14)

I'll start by saying that I have worked in fashion for yeeeeeears before I had my son.

So here goes... the design concept is faulty by just starting with the fact that it's astoundingly ugly. Who the ? & %" designed this, anyway!?! Who in their right mind has used ikat in ages? Aside from aqua or orange- colored pillows perhaps 3-5 years ago. Ikat as a concept is even more passé than chalkboard paint in interiors.

The quality is poor to the point it makes me forget that I'm supposed to be pacifist and stuff. IF they were supposed to market this for the aforementioned " fashionistas " then where is the leather here? The whole point of a clutch is that it's touchable (because you are carrying it in your hands) and because it's smaller than a tote, the cost of a fine leather is bearable for a customer. Besides, clutches show signs of wear so fast it's ridiculous. The only clutches that are made in plastic and canvas (like this stupidity is) are usually marketed for young girls who don't have the deep pockets for the leathery stuff.

GAAAAHHHH! The level of the design faults and Serious Ugly make me all ticked off here.

The only good thing about this enormous lump of monstrosity is the fact that the rings are golden- I like that. But then the rings don't work well either because they are not sturdy obviously and also if this... thing is supposed to be trendy of fashionable, it might be very good to know that white metals are generally used during this decade. Yellow metals were a thing of the 90's and 2000'nds. It also is a classic and I like yellow gold but the whole concept here is just so thoroughly faulty that I can't even.

Pardon me while I go gently caress the September issue of Vogue just to get over all this Serious Ugly.

Steve Morton (2012-10-07 06:51:12)

And for the record.....

Pennybridge normal retail price £35, £33.25 from our favourite retailer.... Wipe clean exterior, but with fixed compact rings...

Ikat £45 as described in the review

Finsbury Compact retail price £48, £45.60 from our favourite retailer.... Leather exterior (in 5 colours) and internal trimmings with some textile facings, fixed compact rings....

I think I would prefer to spend an extra £0.60 or £3 if you must...

As they say in the computer trade no one got sacked for buying HP... the Filofax equivalent is the Finsbury....

icclewu (2012-10-07 06:51:20)

I'm really hoping and praying that Filofax do not go into a third season with Temperley designs. After the disaster of the Affair and Guinea, it was thought impossible for there to be a worse design this time time round. Well congratulations you have done a fantastic job of making one of the most gaudiest (if that isn't actually a word, I like it so will continue to use it) Filofaxes ever.

I would never be seen using this, and wouldn't even buy my daughters one. Filofax sunk to new levels when they brought out the Apex, but after this design I believe the Apex will be smiling a huge sigh of relief. Xx

;))

icclewu (2012-10-07 06:53:16)

Well their servants will be holding an umbrella over them so they don't need to worry. Haha.

Now, where can I find me one of those.....

D. (2012-10-07 06:54:14)

Well put.

icclewu (2012-10-07 07:00:35)

Actually, thinking about it. Imagine returning home after a big night out. You reach into your Ikat clutch bag to find your house keys. You would think you we're hallucinating when you look at it

David Popely (2012-10-07 07:11:49)

Strange you should mention the Finsbury - I've just this morning got mine out to 'play' with....my FF Time Management dividers just don't look right in the brown Kendal and I'm contemplating trialling a couple of set-ups over this last quarter of the year (and with my impending return to work tomorrow).

The Finsbury really is a workhorse of a binder....no frills, no bother. My only criticism is that the 'leather' really is stiff, and it makes the credit card slots hard to access. Otherwise, no complaints.

WeirdRockStar (2012-10-07 07:12:24)

And to add to the (if it is even possible) insult of retinas around the world... IF the whole idea behind this... thing was to be fashion forward then what Filofax should have gone after was all things equestrian, manor- house with a whiff of 20's. Colorways are dark teal, rich plum and chocolate brown. Slacks are high- waisted, with deep pleats (plus fours have been reported to be seen), boots are riding boots etc. Leathers in bags, boots (because the shoe of the season is a boot) and accessories are lacquered, high polished leather. Leather patterns- if some are used is usually crocodile. So the visual arena in the whole is very luxurious, very proper, very classy, very upscale etc.

Now, having that said and looking at this canvas & shiny plastic thing couldn't be further apart.

Even my son told me sternly that the clutch above " is a hoax. It can't be Filofax because it's just so horrid. " And he is 7.

I rest my case.

David Popely (2012-10-07 07:17:07)

Icclewu, I'm going to be recommending to FF that they employ you as their fashion adviser in place of whomever devised the Temperley debacle, when we meet them :)

(Only joking, Steve.....)

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-10-07 07:33:16)

Either that or your drunken friend had just been sick on it.

icclewu (2012-10-07 07:34:49)

Hahaha. You wouldn't know either way!!!!!! Xx

WeirdRockStar (2012-10-07 07:41:16)

You know, the very idea of a Filofax clutch in itself is golden. But... why mess it up so profoundly? Let's imagine something like a Holborn personal with zipper as a starting point to this idea. Add a little space in terms of thickness, add a divider inside to prevent your dairy from busting all over the place when you open the zipper up and reach out for your phone, keys or whatever. Remove those timetravellerish contrasting stitches (which were fantastic in the 70's and 80's but the space- ship for those decades departed eons ago already) to more subdued hues, add a sturdier zipper so it can weather the constant opening and closing and add leather to support the zipper while opening it up etc. I mean, it's not blitherig rocket science! Thicken the leather up, add some lacquer even if to make it more durable (if this is not done with dyejob and sturdier fixative in the dye), stronger zipper supported by leather, enough of space to allow few must haves and a system to keep diary from opening at will. In the end, it all comes to finishes and quality of leather. A clutch would and should be Filofax's domain by nature! What gives yo?

crofter (2012-10-07 08:48:40)

I don't know, I kind of like the fabric, I think it would look great as a saddle blanket for my horse!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-07 10:47:20)

So WeirdRockstar, would it be safe you don't like it then....LOL...I totally agree with every word you have just said...and if filofax had any sense they would be offering you the job for the next seasons files

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-07 10:49:35)

Maybe the idea was to make the Apex look good, so someone would start purchasing Apex's again..just a thought...expensive way of doing things mind..

Butanben (2012-10-07 11:07:55)

There are nicer Ikat fabric designs than this, I am sure and as for colour staining everything bright yellow.... that's put me off it straight away. That's why I rarely cook with turmeric!! Stains everything in sight. By the way.... I am more than miffed with my Finsburys this morning. My black and Aqua A5s are starting to show wear and tear on the back of the clip strap....where the Filofax rests on the desk... only tiny, but nevertheless there and so highly irritating. Have moved my Filofax contents to the A5 ink Cuban this morninghoping it will take the strain of daily use better... but the ring size is much smaller.... so not as functional as the bigger ringed Finsbury. AUDIBLE SIGH....unemployed, so cannot afford a black A5 Malden to replace my aqua Fins with (black Fins not as worn at the buckle.. so bearable as an info binder now...) unless of course I receive an A5 black Malden for free just for being such a trendy Wendy of a fashionista..... what you mean the thermal mountaineering socks and baffly track suit at my home laptop is not fashionista enough!!!!????!!!!

Butanben (2012-10-07 11:13:21)

Actually the fabric is a living representation of a humdinger of a migraine in my humble opinion????!! Wonder if Alice Temperley is a secret migraine sufferer????!! She has my every sympathy if so....

Ray Blake (2012-10-07 11:43:18)

Filofax really need to stop making things that look as though they've come out of a Christmas cracker. If you want to charge a premium price you have to offer a premium product. Though we can joke about the fashion crowd being shallow and susceptible to the old Emperor's New Clothes con, they really aren't stupid and will not recommend tat for fear that their own reputations would be tarnished.

Natalie Pluck (2012-10-07 11:45:50)

Yeah... that's fugly.

janet (2012-10-07 12:02:57)

My guess is that Alice Temperley had nothing to do with the design. She just put her name on it. This looks about as practical as the Chanel-handbag-made-out-of-a hula-hoop that was on the catwalks recently. Or the Jill Sander paper bag handbag (made out of...er...a paper bag) which cost 200 pounds. If the IKAt is a joke I'm not laughing. How stupid do they think Filofax users actually are?

Paul B (2012-10-07 12:03:03)

This really did fall out of the ugly tree and bounce off every branch on the way down. Rock star. If equestrian is in, then my EBay acquisition of an A5 in Italian bridle leather must be high fashion :) Seriously, though.....the difference in the two products is Si far apart, you would think they were made by different companies. If they want fashion, why not go for Paul Smith? He has already done Filofax in the 1980s.

David Popely (2012-10-07 12:21:03)

I *do* hope you're right Ray - in all sorts of ways!!

Savannah (2012-10-07 13:16:18)

That is so funny. I in fact have a red, black and white saddle blanket that looks very similar. It looked great on my grey horse and I liked it very much.

Cheryl (2012-10-07 15:00:14)

Well, I have to disagree on a couple of points. At least here in the US Ikat is very on trend for pillows and furniture. Rarely do I visit an online furniture store and not see Ikat fabric covered chairs, ottomans, pillows, drapes, etc. I wouldn't say its the rage, but has been featured regularly over the past year or so. Now, I will say that the Ikat fabric they chose is horrid. Those color combos are just awful and as you said, why would you put Ikat on a wallet or a binder accessory? Throws, pillows, small chairs, bedding is one thing; Ikat on a wallet is something else entirely. As far as the gold rings, those don't bother me. Gold jewelry is very much 'back' and spotted regularly in online fashion blogs. But the gold rings do not work with this Ikat fabric; it just looks gaudy. The gold rings might work better with a rich buttery equestrian tan or russet color binder but not with all binders of course. Franklin Covey

made spiral bound planner covers for their spiral bound planners and then came out with the rings on the cardboard (actually it was vinyl) to slip into one of the cover's slots if you wanted to add papers to your planner. The slip in rings idea was great except they never stayed put either; when you opened your planner cover they typically slid around and it was very annoying! I had one cover that made for a tight fit but most of the covers did not. I understand and like the idea of being able to remove the planner section but if it is sliding around that would drive me nuts!

Laurie (2012-10-07 15:06:28)

Hi sorry guys, I don't have a Flex in any size.

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-07 16:07:06)

Cheryl, I actually looked up the word Ikat and didn't realise the amazing prints that were out there, I thought it was a made up word or someone's name.. so why on earth they chose this colour combo I do not know.. I think sometimes some prints don't transfer well, you need the size of a cushion or a blanket to appreciate them fully.. To be fair the gold binder is the best bit..I agree doesn't work in this combo.I did see an elephant print and that might have worked...

Writer In Progress (2012-10-08 15:11:55)

I agree that it seems odd that Filofax is trying to target a fashion-forward crowd and then produce such an ugly binder. Yes, ikat is supposed to be on trend, but I agree with previous comments that the equestrian or 20s would have been a better fit with the Filofax aesthetic. Filofax should look at what Mulberry and Coach are doing with their planners and notebooks and create something classy - only not so expensive!

Hannah C. (2012-10-09 23:20:25)

The ikat material that you have behind the Ikat is just gorgeous.

The Ikat Filofax itself is nasty. Doesn't look a thing like the ikat cloth - it looks like bad bus upholstery.

Reader Under the Spotlight - Preethi (2012-10-08 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

I would like to introduce you to Preethi, Preethi is becoming a Philofaxy meet up regular!

Hi Everybody,

I am Preethi, mom to a 16 year old, wife to a great husband and love things in extremes. I am also a Pranic Healer, a passionate minimalist and like to push myself beyond self-erected limits. I work for a fantastic company and love my work. These days I say "Yes" to everything (almost everything) and let the universe guide me into beautiful experiences. Occasionally I blog at [2]Filofit

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

I was asked to buy my first Filofax in 2007. I had just transferred from Dubai to the UK and the new department manager had a thing going for Filofax. She liked everyone to carry a Filofax to client meetings. I was given a £50.00 budget and ended up with an A5 Pink Finsbury. At the time I really hated carrying it around due to the size and weight. In a few months time, the Finsbury got pushed into the recesses of my drawer.

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

I have never really used any other brand. But my love for Filofax started only after I got a Franklin Covey binder during the 7-Habits training last year. Back home after the training I dug out my Pink Finsbury and fell in love with her. The very act of comparing both the binders made me realize that the Filofax was far more superior to the Franklin Covey one. (Right now I hate to admit this because folks at Filofax don't care two hoots about people like me.)

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

My all time favourite size is A5 and style is the Finchley. To me nothing beats the Finchley – the leather, the design, the colours. Currently I am using the Vintage Pink A5 Finchley for work and the Finsbury Turquoise personal size for well personal and home matters. Having gloated about A5, I must admit that I have more personal sizes than A5s. Again we come back to the portability issue.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I have the Personal Finchley in Teal, Imperial Purple, Mustard & Vintage Rose, the Personal Finsbury in Turquoise & Raspberry, A5 Finchley in Mustard, Caramel & Vintage Rose plus a Chameleon in Spring Green. Recently I acquired a personal Snake Domino in Beige. In total 11, though the thought does not sit well with my minimalistic sensibilities. But I am working on that as well. A woman has to let go sometimes, doesn't she?

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

In my personal Filofax I maintain a diary (usually old inserts that I have no other use for), then a food and exercise diary, a daily to-do-list, track expenses, various life projects like – savings, home improvements, mind exercises, monthly routines etc. Work Filofax I use it solely as a to-do-list and for follow-ups.

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

I like using different types of insets for different purposes and the fact that Filofax has got a wide range of designs (the current line-up does not interest me much!).

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

I would take the original Temperley – rip out the satin pink interior and the cheap lace, not to mention the ugly black shiny material (think they call it leather). Then replace it with beautiful beige leather inside and out, cover it with black Viennese lace and then price it at nothing more than £150.00. Now that's what I would call a luxury Filofax.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

A personal in my handbag wherever I go. Because I use only one filofax for personal use at any given point of time, I tend to change the binder according to my mood or the clothes that I wear.

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

The Filofaxes I like keep changing. When Angela at Paperlovestory talked about Deco, I fell in love with it, and then when Imy talked about her Regency I shifted my interests. When I visited City Organiser, I eyed the Osterley Compact and the Purple Malden for a long time. Luckily I am very well aware of my fickle mind and have no plans to purchase anymore. Finchley is my first and last love.

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

I have yet to pay full retail price for a Filofax. The maximum I paid was £40.00 for the A5 Mustard Finchley on e-bay.

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

Having just attended the latest meet-up in London, I can easily say what attracts me about Philofaxy is the people and their passion about being organized in life. Things don't always go as planned, but plans are definitely made and I love the aspect of just dusting your back and getting back into control. On the website – I get so many ideas on how I can pimp my Filofax and love the Tuesday and Saturday web-finds and videos.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

Next question pls.....

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

I would like to leave you with this:

IFRAME: [3]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/N-2KBSA8wEs?rel=0>

Thank you Preethi for agreeing to go under our spotlight.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-yw_aiibRsBo/UGSp-1N1cII/AAAAAAAAANaQ/NauNKKqHmgc/s1600/Preethi.png
2. <http://www.filofit.wordpress.com/>
3. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/N-2KBSA8wEs?rel=0>

austinlinda (2012-10-08 01:17:19)

Should you ever wish to place your mustard or Vintage Rose Personal Finchleys up for adoption, I would pay handsomely and give them a great home!

I also love Finchleys, and Maldens. Actually I think my best one is my Deco—they are both in Red and one is a personal, same color, etc. in a pocket.

Loved your interview! You're a real connoisseur of Filofaxes!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-08 04:55:42)

I love Finchleys as well - they have always been my favourite - followed by the snake bronze domino. Really interested thanks Preethi - I wish I could be more minimalistic - I really do try and fail miserably! I love your blog as well - keep up the good work!

Ro (2012-10-08 18:48:59)

Very pleased to meet you, Preethi!

Anita (2012-10-09 03:21:30)

I really enjoyed spending time with you at the meet up & think it's great that you've gone under the spotlight :) Thanks for your help in resisting pens I don't need! The Yoshida Brothers are awesome too.

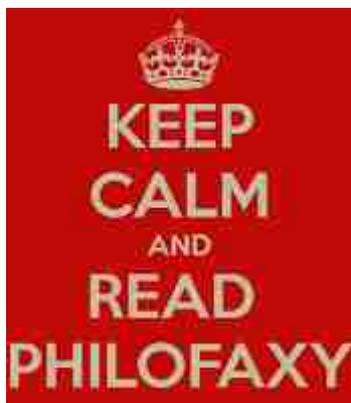
Preethi (2012-10-09 04:25:29)

Thanks Steve for featuring me here.

AustinLinda, Alison, Ro & Anita - thanks for your comments. I love being part of the Philofaxy community.

Anita - it was great meeting you too at the meet-up. Are you in or around London any time soon, we could do a quick catch-up.

Free For All Tuesday No 88 (2012-10-09 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have.

So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-bJDrXVhsvXI/T-3uAaeb2dI/AAAAAAAAAL9Q/I7Nbi20ZwrU/s1600/keepcalm1.png>

Nickie O'Hara (2012-10-09 04:47:01)

What size Filofax does everyone use for work/home balance? I'm currently attempting to run two Filofaxes (one Personal, one A5) and it's not working. I love the room in the A5 but the size of the Personal suits me better for carrying around.

Laurie (2012-10-09 05:00:22)

This is the classic Filofax dilemma. It's what I call the "book too big/ page too small" problem. The pages in the A5 are a good size but the book is too big to carry everywhere. The Personal size is fine to carry around but the

pages are too small. This is why I've been wanting a slimline A5 for ages! I could stand to carry it around, still have large pages, and can swap the pages out with my Mother Ship binder at home. Ah well, I can continue to dream.

Good luck figuring out what works for you!

Doris (2012-10-09 05:03:55)

Nickie, I've never used an A5 and I've used Filofaxes for almost 20 years. The Personal size has always worked for me, despite the limited writing space. For a certain time, I even ran my life from a Pocket, and I still could if I chose to do so.

Steve Morton (2012-10-09 05:22:12)

I am using an A5 as my main planner and a compact personal just to carry around, it only contains a copy of my diary and addresses and some note paper. Diary wise it just notes my main appointments and times so if I get asked whilst I'm out then I have access to my appointments etc.

Works for me.

Chris Pearson (2012-10-09 05:56:40)

Nickie,

I managed to find a like new 2008 Mulberry Agenda last week so now running that as my "on the hoof" wallet/diary/planner and my 17 year old Time System Chairman A5 with Filofax inserts on my desk in the office and in the car.

Just need to work out how to get a decent Day per Page diary for the Mulberry Agenda now, gutted that they have deleted it in favour of the Week at View which leaves very little space for notes.

Nickie O'Hara (2012-10-09 06:31:55)

I want a diary system that has the same WTP but on both sides I think so I could have one side for work and one for personal use. I wonder if I could adapt a template to work for me like that?

Butanben (2012-10-09 07:27:47)

Nickie- a thought here. Why don't you draw a line down the middle of the week diary..... or even slightly to one side.... the smallest section being the one which usually has the least appointments.... or if fairly equal number of appointments then divide in half. One side for work the other for home. May mean writing smaller.... but may work??? Or colour code.... so that work is say blue (or whatever,) and home pink..... make sure that the 2 colours really are so contrasting that you can't muddle the 2 up..... I use blue and pink for work and home respectively and red with a highlighter for tip top priority must not forget!!!

Butanben (2012-10-09 07:35:47)

Steve, I've come to the same conclusion that this works... an A5 and a smaller carry round.... except I am divided between a mini carry round and a pocket a mini pour le handbag seems about right for me..... for the only times I don't need the A5 and may need a diary/paper are when out shopping or for lunch with friends... or when on a course and it is easy to jot down any dates then to transfer back to the A5. Just I find keeping 2 diaries a huge pain though.... I am very much a 1 planner 1 life gal.... and would prefer just the one.... A5 works for me best at the mo!!

Morag (2012-10-09 07:50:36)

Steve, I considered doing the same as you but I wondered how you keep your carry around synced with the A5? I use an A5 and wanted to carry around a pocket with just main appointments but I couldn't work out an easy way to keep it all updated. What do you do?

Steve Morton (2012-10-09 07:55:00)

I don't have that many appointments.... which I guess helps so I do an update between the two as a routine thing. The same as I update my iCal so the rest of the family know what I'm up to as well... sadly they are electronic. I gave up on electronic calendars for a while, but since the start of Apples iOS iCloud I only use that now and it

just works between my various i Devices and I figured out how to share those calendars, so the people that matter can keep up to date with my movements.

Steve Morton (2012-10-09 07:56:21)

You could do that with ours by just setting the printer to single side print. Run it through the printer twice so you would end up with identical printing on each side.

Steve

Anita (2012-10-09 08:01:55)

Like some of the others here, I have settled on a two filofax system. My slimline is my main one with all to-dos & important stuff, with my A5 as a back up for planning, project & reading material. I would like a Tardis-like slimline that is as big as an A5 on the inside! :)

Laurie (2012-10-09 08:08:07)

There's a bound-book diary with this double week format, the Busy Life Diary by K Two if you want to see an example of what this looks like:

<http://www.thepaperie.co.uk/diaries-calendars/2013-diaries-planners/k-two-busy-life-diary-2013.html>

Alison Reeves (2012-10-09 11:14:45)

Or, how about a week with notes to view? (This is where you have the week on the left and a notes page opposite). You could extend the lines across yourself into the notes section.

Emma Gre (2012-10-09 12:25:23)

Does anyone know where I go and see a Malden in the UK? I live in the west midlands and London is a bit too far to go :(

baggirl (2012-10-09 14:25:21)

Do you have a branch of "pen and paper" near you? My local shop stocks Maldens. Can't think of anywhere else though - sorry.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-10-09 16:37:41)

You could always use the diaries on here and print 4 to a page as the agenda is A6 size (1/4 of A4). Or, get an A6 size diary and dismantle it, which is what I've done.

Nickie O'Hara (2012-10-09 17:07:31)

Lots of great suggestions for my "double life" situation. I'm going to have a play around with a few (especially the printing situation) and let you know. Thanks everyone.

PS - loving that bound book, Laurie - have put that into my favourites to look at again in a few weeks.

DEM (2012-10-09 19:33:39)

I, too, use a two Filo system. An A5 for work which is strictly for note-taking and filing those notes and a personal that carries my calendar and everything else I could possibly need.

David Popely (2012-10-10 07:32:23)

Despite all attempts to up-size to A5, only my Personal Malden works for me.

I did transfer the contents into my Hampstead when on holiday, as I thought the Malden might get a hard time, but they're safely back in the Malden now....

David Popely (2012-10-10 07:34:03)

Websters Pen Shop?

Web Finds - 9 October 2012 (2012-10-09 12:00) - Steve Morton

Quite a sizeable collection of posts since Saturday.... if it's wet outside pull up a chair and grab a coffee and enjoy some great posts.

1. [1]My filofaxes – where are they now? (part 2) - Paper Pens Ink
2. [2]What's in My Purple A5 Finsbury - PART 3 - The University Section - The Beginnings of a Filo-Fanatic
3. [3]Teacher Planning Pages For My Filofax - Jar FM
4. [4]New Homemade Filofax dividers - Whimsicality
5. [5]Slimline Filofax Update!! - Filo Obsessed
6. [6]My Filofax Compact Chameleon Is Going On A Diet!- Glossette
7. [7]Anatomy of my Filofax: Accessories - The Storage Studio
8. [8]Day 1 – slimline Kensington in Lerici - The Musings of Max
9. [9]Day 2 – the Slimline Kensington in San Terenzo - The Musings of Max
10. [10]This Quagmire is getting Boggier.... - Imysworld
11. [11]In development: planner for teachers - My Life All in One Place
12. [12]I spy with my little eye, something beginning with... - All Things Stationery
13. [13]Having a major Filo-fail... - Practically Pretty
14. [14]my filofax week #25 - Paper Lovestory
15. [15]Filofax week 40! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
16. [16]Week 1 - 7 - Lola Karwowski
17. [17]Filofax Designs: Your Comments Needed! - Jagged Little Thoughts
18. [18]What's In My Purple A5 Finsbury - PART 4 - Everything Else - Jess's Blog
19. [19]What no notepaper !!! - Filo Obsessed
20. [20]Holiday Wish List: Stationary Geek Edition - The Crazy Suburban Mom
21. [21]A Mini Treat...And Mini Review - Jess's Blog
22. [22]My Filofax Week #2 - Glossette
23. [23]Anatomy of my Filofax: Paper - The Storage Studio
24. [24]Day 4 – Slimline Kensington in Carrara - The Musings of Max
25. [25]Filofax College - Week 2 - Upsizing - Guest Lesson - Imysworld
26. [26]How I Track Projects - Sense of Gravity
27. [27]Journalling School Session 12: End of Term Review - My Life All in One Place
28. [28]Journalling School (12) - Filomaniac
29. [29]365/30 October 3–Favorite Filofaxes - Miscellany from a Filofax Fanatic

30. [30]365/30 October 4–Five most craved Filofax - Miscellany from a Filofax Fanatic
31. [31]DIY Filofax Future Project Insert, personal size. - The Crazy Suburban Mom
32. [32]8-10-2012/14-10-2012 filofax settimana - Mamma StressFilofaxATA
33. [33]How To: Make Your Own A5 Filofax Filler Paper - Snider Writer

And this weeks video finds

IFRAME: [34]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/rD32NwDMKR4?rel=0>

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/TmPs0U2EhSw?rel=0>

IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/nPXMB0Ktcjs?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-filofaxes-where-are-they-now-part-2.html>
2. <http://beginningofafilofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/10/whats-in-my-purple-a5-finsbury-part-3.html>
3. <http://jarfm.com/?p=543>
4. <http://scottishwhimsicality.blogspot.fr/2012/10/new-homemade-filofax-dividers.html>
5. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/10/slimline-filofax-update.html>
6. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/10/06/my-filofax-is-going-on-a-diet/>
7. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/anatomy-of-my-filofax-accessories.html>
8. <http://musingsofmax.wordpress.com/2012/10/04/day-1-slimline-kensington-in-lerici/>
9. <http://musingsofmax.wordpress.com/2012/10/06/day-2-the-slimline-kensington-in-san-terenzo/>
10. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/this-quagmire-is-getting-boggier.html>
11. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/in-development-planner-for-teachers.html>
12. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/10/i-spy-with-my-little-eye-something.html>
13. <http://practical-and-pretty.blogspot.fr/2012/10/having-major-filo-fail.html>
14. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/my-filofax-week-25.html>
15. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-week-40.html>
16. <http://lolakarowski.blogspot.fr/2012/10/week-1-7.html>
17. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-designs-your-comments-needed.html>
18. <http://beginningofafilofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/10/whats-in-my-purple-a5-finsbury-part-4.html>
19. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/10/what-no-notepaper.html>
20. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/holiday-wish-list-stationary-geek.html>
21. <http://beginningofafilofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/10/a-mini-treatand-mini-review.html>
22. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/10/07/my-filofax-week-2/>
23. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/anatomy-of-my-filofax-paper.html>
24. <http://musingsofmax.wordpress.com/2012/10/08/day-4-slimline-kensington-in-carrara/>
25. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-college-week-2-upsizing-guest.html>
26. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.fr/2012/10/so-as-promised-to-limetree-here-are.html>
27. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/journalling-school-session-12-end-of.html>
28. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/journalling-school-12.html>
29. <http://filofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/10/36530-october-3-favorite-filofaxes.html>
30. <http://filofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/10/36530-october-4-five-most-craved-filofax.html>
31. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/diy-filofax-future-project-insert.html>
32. <http://mammastressataxd.blogspot.fr/2012/10/8-10-201214-10-2012-filofax-settimana.html>
33. <http://sniderwriter.com/2012/10/09/how-to-make-your-own-a5-filofax-filler-paper/>
34. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/rD32NwDMKR4?rel=0>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/TmPs0U2EhSw?rel=0>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/nPXMB0Ktcjs?rel=0>

Cloudberry (2012-10-09 14:22:35)

Joshua, I love your red Winchester - what a classic!

EmmaNoey (2012-10-09 15:33:29)

There was a 5/4 red Winchester on ebay last week that I wanted to bid on, but didn't since pocket is really the size that works best for me. I really wanted it though! When I saw this video, I thought you had won it. It's a pity we didn't bid on it, since it went for the equivalent of \$32. I wonder who got it? I do love my navy Winchester, and you're right- the rings are a dream.

jemilyea (2012-10-09 17:11:43)

Special thanks to Josh: a few weeks ago in one of your videos you mentioned that you used the Franklin Pocket/Compact metal hole puncher. It was exactly what I was looking for. I hadn't known where in the US I could find a metal punch like that. I found one on ebay.

Butanben (2012-10-09 19:59:41)

Thanks Steve. A great range of finds I really enjoyed. BTW, my dates almanac blog (monthly one) Each Shining Hour is out for Oct!

EmmaNoey (2012-10-09 20:18:55)

I see here that this really isn't clear; this was in response to Josh's video about his new red Winchester.

Josh (2012-10-10 16:52:24)

I missed the 5/4 red Winchester... Sounds lovely and certainly much cheaper than the one I bought! But I love the smaller ringed one I ended up with too, and think the 7/8 rings create good discipline regarding how much stuff I try to cram in to my binder.

Josh (2012-10-10 16:53:35)

I really like the Franklin Covey punch. I keep one at work and one at home, definitely a good investment.

Malden as my travel companion (2012-10-10 00:00) - Anita Lim

I recently visited Iceland and thought that it would be a good time to try out my Malden as a travel-fax and wallet combined. For some reason, I've never taken a filo abroad before and realised that it would be quite handy for quick access to important documents whilst out and about. When we got to Gatwick, I kept it in my hand and had my passport, e-tickets and boarding card all safely stashed in my [1]pencil case at the front. In the past I've used a small across body bag for these items and my Malden did a very good job instead.

Once we boarded the plane, my filo was very handy again to keep close by as we needed to pay for any drinks and snacks on the flight. The contents nearly doubled in size due to receipts, a city map tucked into the notepad slot and other paperwork I collected on our travels, but I'd already had a bit of a clear out before leaving the UK. On some of the warmer and sunny days, I was able to squeeze my little phone in the back (just) and leave my trusty backpack behind at our apartment.

Verdict? Definitely a success, but I think that maybe the compact or slimline size would be better suited as it was pretty chunky and took up quite a bit of space in my bag.



[2]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/plastic-pencil-case-hack.html>
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-y0GmdQas_OI/UGTLu1Kd4sI/AAAAAAAAAso/19H6yP14qz0/s1600/P1020833.JPG

KarynsPlanit (2012-10-10 15:11:59)

Malden is one of Filofax's greats, that's for sure! For readers in the US, Filofax is offering 25 % off all Maldens until October 12. Use check out code M12. Happy shopping!

Maus (2012-10-10 15:27:23)

Thank you for this post, Anita!

Though I'm using the Compact size normally, it was the Personal Malden who accompanied me on our holidays in august - there's space in it for everything one needs away from home...

@KarynsPlanit: What a great chance in the US!!! :-)

Anthony Hill (2012-10-10 17:22:50)

Thank you for the post Anita. On holiday last year I used my Personal Metropol which contained my addresses, emails addresses and my diary (WO2P) where I recorded each days outings.

Philofaxy Meet Up - London - November 2012 (2012-10-11 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 24 November 2012** and we will meet initially at **12 noon** at Vapiano on the corner of Southwark Street and Great Guildford Street on the South Bank of the Thames, this is behind Tate Modern on Southwark Street about a 10 minute walk from either London Bridge Station or Southwark Tube Station.



[1]

Please note that this is a change in venue to the usual Tate Modern Cafe². But I think you will enjoy the new venue even more. They have a great ordering system which uses a smart card to record the items you order from the bar or food counter. When you pay the bill you will only be paying for the items you ordered and there's no additional service charge. Because of the flexibility on their ordering and payment system, you will be able to easily pay with cash or card. If you are slightly late it won't be quite so critical.

You can read all about the restaurant on their ^[2]website here

During the meal there will be plenty of time for chatting and sharing Filofax organisers... There is also a large lounge area where we can sit and drink coffee or something stronger.

Then we will take a walk across the river to ^[3]City Organiser who have kindly agreed to open their shop for us on the Saturday afternoon... in fact Andy will be joining us for lunch at Vapiano.

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](mailto:steve[at]philofaxy[dot]com) and mark your email **November 2012 London Meetup** but **not before 9am (UK time) tomorrow Friday 12 October 2012**. Please only request a place if you are 99 % certain that you will be able to attend on the 24th I'm hoping this time to have full attendance.

Once all twelve places are assigned additional names will be added to a reserve list, in case anyone has to drop out of the meet up between the 12th October and 24th November.

As places are allocated you will receive an email back again confirming your place on the meet up.

Please **do not** book travel tickets etc until you have a confirmed place. I will attempt to confirm places within 2-3 hours of receiving your email.

Should you be unsuccessful in booking a place on this particular meet up in November there will be another meet up in spring 2013 the date is as yet to be confirmed.

Additional Information

If you aren't familiar with London or how to get to Vapiano from the station you are arriving at then use the ^[4]Transport for London Journey Planner, it's generally quite good.

Once we have our full list of people, we will exchange email addresses and if you aren't familiar with London you might be able to get someone to meet you at the station you are arriving at.

Your safety on the day and your enjoyment on the day is of paramount importance to me, so don't be afraid to ask any questions by email, I want everyone who attends to get the most from the day.

If you are staying over night there are a variety of hotels in the area, Premier Inn, Travel Lodge, Holiday Inn Express, Mercure all have hotels in the area.

I will be staying down in Kent so I will be coming up for the day, but I'm sure if people want to meet up afterwards for a meal like the recent London Meet Up, then I can stay late in to the evening as well.

Thank you... any questions?

IFRAME: ^[5]<https://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8 &ll=51.505185,-0.097539 &spn=0.001833,0.002988 &t=m &z=19 &output=embed>

[6]View Larger Map

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qd-VeL1gH_0/UGHmRPnvFOI/AAAAAAAAANQs/1LZCVF81-NU/s1600/24092012028.jpg
2. <http://www.vapiano.de/frame.php?lang=uk>
3. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
4. http://journeyplanner.tfl.gov.uk/user/XSLT_TRIP_REQUEST2?language=en
5. <https://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.505185,-0.097539&spn=0.001833,0.002988&t=m&z=19&output=embed>
6. <https://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.505185,-0.097539&spn=0.001833,0.002988&t=m&z=19&source=embed>

Imogen Callaway (2012-10-11 04:02:11)

Have fun everyone, I cannot afford to go this time :(the first meeting I have missed since i started coming! :(have fun!! x

Butanben (2012-10-12 11:57:02)

Enjoy!!! I too have to watch the pennies, so cannot come this time round. I would just sovery much love to be there though!! xx

Jotje (2012-10-12 12:24:50)

I'll be attending again and this time with my 11 year old daughter!!!

Carol (2012-10-13 08:37:46)

I am new to Filofax and Philofaxy - I am very excited to have a place on this meet up.

Imogen Callaway (2012-10-16 05:49:51)

Oh I wish I could of come now so I could see you again!! xxx

Free For All Friday No. 204 (2012-10-12 00:00) - Laurie

Recently I was calling around comparing heating oil prices (follow me here, I promise this relates to Filofax) and writing down the prices for each company. I started to write them into the notes section of my planner, but realized this was information that 1) I don't need to carry around with me, and 2) my husband might need access to. So I put it in a file folder instead.

Back when my kids were babies and we traveled often, I kept a lot of information in my Filofax that most people would keep in file folders. But this system majorly broke down when I started switching around Filofaxes and lost track of which binder held things like my magazine subscription lists with due dates. So I started putting this information into file folders instead.

Whether you put information into your Filofax, into file folders or in a household binder, what matters most is to have information that other people might need to access in one central location.

Do you keep household information mainly in your Filofax, in file folders or in a household binder? (Or someplace else like your computer or phone?)

And as always on Fridays, the floor is yours to discuss anything Filofax-related. Happy Friday everyone! :)

Amanda (2012-10-12 00:49:44)

I keep most household info in my binder, but that's also because I am a stay at home mom and my A5 is more of a household management tool than anything. I do file bills and other information away, but anything that I'm currently acting on or will be acting on in the future is kept in filed in my binder.

JasJan (2012-10-12 02:43:06)

Does anybody know if City Organiser have a discount code for October?

David Popely (2012-10-12 03:56:06)

I tend to keep mine in my FF.....there isn't anything we really both need to access, and i do most of the related stuff anyway. If I *did* need to share it, I'd probably do it through a shared electronic folder somewhere like Dropbox or Google drive (although I'm not keen on the new-and-improved version)

David Popely (2012-10-12 04:07:54)

hi Laurie, I've never seen the merit in recording oil prices, because they change so much from one order to the next. I was shocked to find out the other day that heating oil suppliers are *not* regulated by OFGEN, which effectively means they can do what they like as regards both pricing and service levels, and the that's certainly reflected in some of what passes for customer services here in South Wales.

What might be more use than price info would be to record (the many) instances of bad customer service in order to facilitate the inevitable complaints when they need to be made! I'd definitely use my Filofax for that....

Steve Morton (2012-10-12 04:09:29)

Don't believe so at the moment, have you checked their Facebook page? And liked it of course....

David Popely (2012-10-12 04:11:20)

Thanks for that Steve - just visited and liked

Steve Morton (2012-10-12 04:12:34)

I keep a monthly record of our oil tank level and translate that in to litres so I can monitor how much we have used. But we only need to fill our tank once every 12 months, but our supplier lets us pay on a monthly basis and this includes the servicing of the boiler.

We used natural gas in UK so this is the first time we have had oil fired heating.

But the price of oil has more than doubled here in the last 7 years since we bought the house!

Steve

Doris (2012-10-12 05:00:18)

I do all 3: a Household Data binder for recording account numbers, passwords; a hanging file system for paper filing; and of course, my Filofax for the day-to-day stuff.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-12 05:23:52)

All my household bills and stuff goes into a filing system (when I get around to filing - but that is another story!). I've just revamping, but my FF is just used for diary/planner, tasks and project lists, and anything personal - present lists etc. I've used an A5 home binder on and off over time, but this is more likely to store menu planners, shopping lists, flylady type lists. As I work from home I don't really have a need to carry a lot of stuff around with me as I'm home often enough to access it.

Cloudberry (2012-10-12 09:00:56)

Does anyone know of any good Filofax shops in Birmingham?

I have meeting in Birmingham next week and have a bit of time to kill - great opportunity for a little window shopping!

just another mummy (2012-10-12 09:42:04)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Gillie Smellie (2012-10-12 09:59:26)

Darn Google Accounts - I thought I had deleted "just another mummy" eons ago. Second time lucky!

I have a house ring binder that has everything in one place. It has a list of all the useful telephone numbers plus all our NI, Passport numbers etc.

Then sections for each month. At the front of each month section is a typed list of things that have to be done that month divided up by birthdays, household and garden. Behind that goes anything that comes in that I need to keep related to that month. Travel tickets, information about school trips etc.

At the moment the house cleaning routine (the deep clean not every day stuff) is in a separate section and I check off each item as I get around to it. I am thinking of getting rid of this and instead putting the jobs on the page at the front of the monthly sections.

(BTW can you only reply to posts using Google Account?)

Then there are sections for Term cards (we have three different schools plus 2 choirs and an orchestra to keep up with) and finally a section for each member of the family. Here go ideas for presents, business cards for things like French Horn repair lists of presents received at Christmas to write the thank you letters etc.

It is used by everybody and would probably be the first thing I grabbed as I fled a burning house!

MySummerTouch (2012-10-12 11:12:04)

I started using flylady system and setting up a Control Journal to have household and our family members information ready to use for everybody (mainly for my DH).

However, I plan to put the most important information on the fridge because I'm not sure if my DH will check the Control Journal every day. Our Daughter is only five, and her daily routines will be drawn and hang on her wall so she could check every action herself with a marker.

I also plan to write and keep records of food and gas prices to plan my spending(to check if the government is lying on this also (i am not sure how to write the verb to lie correctly, forgive me). I don't need this every day, so this will go into the Control Journal.

In my Filofax goes my GTD personal system as " someday, maybe; next action (to go, to call, to buy etc.); references; waiting for; projects" lists.

In conclusion, our family information stays at home in a binder, my personal goes with me in FF. If i need to share my data with my DH, I forward him this with an email from my iPhone.

MySummerTouch (2012-10-12 11:19:34)

P.S. It might be a good idea to have our Control Journal in google Docs or something like that to have it ready anywhere. I'll just scan it!

Do you have a family calendar online somewhere so your family has access to it?

Alison Reeves (2012-10-12 11:41:57)

I don't go to Birmingham much these days, but Rackhams and Selfridges used to stock them - you could try calling ahead? Also there is The Pen Shop (<http://www.penshop.co.uk/>) in the Great Western Arcade which stocks them. This is behind Rackhams - if you google it, it will give directions.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-12 11:43:46)

Gillie - this sounds like a great use of a home binder and you have provided some great ideas that I will probably steal!

kanalt (2012-10-12 12:47:32)

I update my google calendar every week. My FILO is my main calendar but I do add my appointments to google just so that my husband has access to it. Once he got the iPhone, he preferred this method. Anything to keep him organized!

kanalt (2012-10-12 12:49:38)

Anything home related goes into the home binder (personal Malden). We have house to do items, a full address book, passwords, home projects, ect. I thought I would use this more than my husband, and while that is true, he uses it fairly often. So it was worth the effort to set it up. It stays at home always so there's no worry about what information might get taken if left somewhere. It's the perfect companion to my every day compact binder!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-12 14:52:51)

I was trying to tell my husband where to look for stuff if something happened to me. He said: "I'll just look in your planner." Good idea.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-12 14:53:37)

Okay. I was wondering why people were monitoring oil prices. Not something I do in the US,

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-12 14:54:22)

Great idea. I should do something like that.

Laurie (2012-10-12 15:05:11)

Patty our house is heated with heating oil, which is actually kerosene, which is stored in a huge tank outside. Prices fluctuate a lot here so when I need to have the tank filled I call around to get the best price. This is the first time we've had this type of a heating system so shopping around and comparing prices for this is new to me!

Butanben (2012-10-12 19:10:50)

I have seen some lovely spotty, dotty grid paper on Ray's blog to download. Would love some in my Filofax.... but has anyone got any innovative ideas of putting this type of notepaper to good use??

Steve Morton (2012-10-12 19:12:15)

Isometric drawings... house plans... circuit diagrams.. I've printed some off for my work Filofax...

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-12 21:12:01)

Interesting. I can see why you would need to do that.

Kristy Sherrod (2012-10-12 23:08:19)

You can ask them on there, too. I asked and they gave me one in September. They are great!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-10-13 11:31:15)

An 'isometric' (same + length) drawing of a house might need quite a large pad...

:-)

David Popely (2012-10-13 14:06:52)

My system is designed to work exclusively on lined paper and/or to-do and address pages, specifically so that I can stick to Cotton Cream throughout. However, due to Filofax's unwillingness to produce any decent diary inserts in Cotton Cream, I have to use the hateful week-on-two-pages standard layout, which doesn't suit me at all, *just* to get uniformity. At the moment uniformity is winning.....but I don't see why FF can't produce a variety of diary inserts in Cotton Cream.

Can anyone advise whether alternative Cotton Cream diary layouts in Personal size are available from overseas (non-UK) sites?

Butanben (2012-10-14 14:01:52)

Thanks...house plans/ classroom plans seem like a good idea!!

Web Finds - 13 October 2012 (2012-10-13 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

It is a very special persons very significant birthday today..... Happy Birthday Laurie, I hope you

have a great day today..... I wonder if you are getting a new planner for your birthday??!!
There are a limited number of places still available for the next [2]Philofaxy London Meet Up, read the post here if you are interested in attending.
Meanwhile.... here are some great posts for you all to read.

1. [3]A change in my organisational system! - Lily, Actually
2. [4]Journalling School - download your free book - My Life All in One Place
3. [5]Filofax copy :) ha ha ha - Mamma StressfilofaxATA
4. [6]The Dodo wasn't extinct after all! - Nothing's Original
5. [7]Planner Setup: Compact Osterley - Wandrrlust
6. [8]Filofax Shootout: A5 Finsbury vs. A5 Malden - The Crazy Suburban Mom
7. [9]Stationary Haul #3 - Behind my Purpley Life
8. [10]More Malden Magic - Filomaniac
9. [11]Filofax tendencies - The Yarn Yard
10. [12]The ultimate piece of office furniture - Take Note
11. [13]Can you stand a slimline Filofax to look like this? - All Filo
12. [14]filofax issues...again - Paper Lovestory
13. [15]Anatomy of my Filofax: Multi-Pens - The Storage Studio
14. [16]10 Reasons I Use a Planner - Homemakers Daily
15. [17]Filofax Pens - Pentorium
16. [18]Filofax in Romania - Rufele in Public
17. [19]My filofaxes – where are they now? (part 3) - Paper Pens Ink
18. [20]First Custom Filofax Design - Jagged Little Thoughts
19. [21]Raspberry Finsbury goes to Hospital - Jagged Little Thoughts
20. [22]Download and print dot grid paper for your Filofax...- My Life All in One Place
21. [23]Dreikampf X47 vs. Filofax vs. Succes - Zoom Lab
22. [24]My new Metropol Amber - The absolutely fabulous Ingvill Susann
23. [25]My Lovely Holborn - Behind my Purpley Life
24. [26]How can I have such an extensive to do list and forget to shower? - The Crazy Suburban Mom
25. [27]A dying breed?? - The Perpetual Student
26. [28]osterley filofax set up part 1! - Paper Lovestory
27. [29]Filofax Hacks - Lochen ohne Locher - Chaotic Perfectionist
28. [30]Teachers' planner now available to download - My Life All in One Place
29. [31]Teachers Planner Files To Download - JarFM

30. [32]Can't part with my Finsbury! Jagged Little Thoughts
31. [33]Filofax Notepaper - Circus Life with Disturbed Mamacita
32. [34]Filofax Week 42 - It's Just Hazel
33. [35]Dissertation Filofax - In Hope Of An Organised Life
34. [36]i'm a filo-enabler, yes i am - and then she read
35. [37]Tough decision - Filomaniac
36. [38]A few new things: Paperchase, Rimmel, Revlon... - Sailboat
37. [39]Sssshhhhhh. Filofax and yarn. - The Yarn Yard
38. [40]My new set-up, part one - Honey & Filofaxes
39. [41]Regency, oh how I miss you - Imysworld
40. [42]Herbstimpressionen - Filo-Manie
41. [43]New Filofax: Sexy Snake - Femme Musings
42. [44]Filofaxes I Don't Understand - Vanjilla

- Your blog post could appear here next week if we missed you this time around. Email us the details and we will include it if we can.
- We can not guarantee people will read your posts, but we know there is a higher chance of people reading your posts and returning to read other posts if you make them interesting with pictures and good hints and tips. Do not forget to give your posts a title...

And this weeks Filofax Video's

IFRAME: [45]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Bzid9iczlz0?rel=0>

IFRAME: [46]http://www.youtube.com/embed/cS9_ayRVCzM?rel=0

Enjoy

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-eFWXbHcuswk/UHibrAfEScI/AAAAAAAAANqI/GW3QFuLs2CY/s1600/plannercake.jpg>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/10/philofaxy-meet-up-london-november-2012.html>
3. <http://lilyactually.blogspot.fr/2012/10/a-change-in-my-organisational-system.html>
4. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/journaling-school-download-your-free.html>
5. <http://mammastressataxd.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-copy-ha-ha-ha.html>
6. <http://nothingsoriginalanymore.blogspot.fr/2012/10/the-dodo-wasnt-extinct-after-all.html>
7. <http://wandrrlust.org/2012/10/10/planner-setup-compact-osterley/>
8. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/filofax-shootout-a5-finsbury-vs-a5.html>
9. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/stationary-haul-3.html>
10. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/more-malden-magic.html>
11. <http://theyarnyard.co.uk/blog/2012/10/10/filofax-tendencies/>
12. <http://bookhistory.harvard.edu/takenote/node/83>
13. <http://tracyoy.wordpress.com/2012/10/10/can-you-stand-a-slimline-filofax-to-look-like-this/>
14. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/filofax-issuesagain.html>
15. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/anatomy-of-my-filofax-multi-pens.html>
16. <http://homemakersdaily.com/10-reasons-i-use-a-planner/>
17. <http://www.pentorium.com/2012/10/10/filofax-pens/>
18. <http://www.rufeleinpublic.ro/2012/10/07/filofax-in-romania/>

19. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/10/my-filofaxes-where-are-they-now-part-3.html>
20. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/first-custom-filofax-design.html>
21. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/raspberry-finsbury-goes-to-hospital.html>
22. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/download-and-print-dot-grid-paper-for.html>
23. <http://www.subcess.de/2012/10/11/dreikampf/>
24. <http://insu1974.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-new-metropol-amber.html>
25. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-lovely-holborn.html>
26. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/how-can-i-have-such-extensive-to-do.html>
27. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/10/a-dying-breed.html>
28. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/osterley-filofax-set-up-part-1.html>
29. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-hacks-lochen-ohne-locher.html>
30. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/teachers-planner-now-available-to.html>
31. <http://jarfm.com/?p=547>
32. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/can-part-with-my-finsbury.html>
33. <http://mamacitascircus.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-notepaper.html>
34. <http://itsjusthazel.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-week-42.html>
35. <http://organisedstudentlife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/dissertation-filofax.html>
36. <http://andthensheread.com/2012/10/12/im-a-filo-enabler-yes-i-am/>
37. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/schwere-entscheidung.html>
38. <http://www.sailorjennie.com/2012/10/a-few-new-things-paperchase-rimmel.html>
39. <http://theyarnyard.co.uk/blog/2012/10/12/ssssshhhhhh-filofax-and-yarn/>
40. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-new-set-up-part-one.html>
41. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/regency-oh-how-i-miss-you.html>
42. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/10/herbstimpressionen.html>
43. <http://femmeinistspectator.wordpress.com/2012/10/12/new-filofax-sexy-snake/>
44. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofaxes-i-dont-understand.html>
45. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Bzid9iczlz0?rel=0>
46. http://www.youtube.com/embed/cS9_ayRVCzM?rel=0

crofter (2012-10-13 00:18:07)

Let me be the second (at least here) to wish you a very Happy Birthday Laurie!

LJ (2012-10-13 01:31:23)

Happy Birthday Laurie!!! And thanks for another great list of web finds Steve :o)

Laurie (2012-10-13 05:32:05)

Thank you Steve and everyone!!! And yes of course I got planners for my birthday!! The Quo Vadis ABP1, which you can see my review of on my blog, the WeekDate weekly and monthly calendars, which I've reviewed in the past and will have photos of the new (gorgeous!) covers up on my blog next week, and a Compact Franklin Covey binder very generously sent to me by our very own Zoe!! Thank you Zoe!

Have a great weekend everyone! :)

gdigesu (2012-10-13 06:29:40)

Laurie, happy birthday!

Anita (2012-10-13 06:34:39)

Happy birthday, Laurie :)

Angela Paperlovestory (2012-10-13 08:45:45)

Happy birthday, Laurie! October is definitely the best month to have a birthday (speaking from personal experience of course ;)). Hope you have a fab day xxx

Lime Tree (2012-10-13 15:54:13)

Happy Birthday Laurie! Wishing you many planners, paper, pens and stationery fun on your new personal year ahead! Yay!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-13 16:26:20)

Happy Birthday

JohnofJenkins (2012-10-13 21:52:59)

Happy Birthday Laurie - hope you have a great day with lots of presents - and no rain :0)

Laurie (2012-10-14 04:16:32)

Thank you!! :)

Laurie (2012-10-14 04:16:47)

Thanks!

Laurie (2012-10-14 04:19:20)

Thanks everyone! I had a great birthday. My mom is here visiting so it was especially nice to have her here for my birthday. I got lots of great stuff, including a gorgeous purple Paperblanks notebook from my mom! She reads my blog and knows how much I love notebooks!

kanalt (2012-10-15 06:26:25)

Acknowledge, I'm so late to the party here. Laurie, I hope you had a fabulous birthday! What a great way to spend it, being a part of web finds. :-)

kanalt (2012-10-15 06:27:39)

Ugh, that was supposed to be "ack," not acknowledge, though you can also acknowledge that I'm late to the party.

A5 revisited (2012-10-14 00:00) - Anita Lim

After my little flirtation with the [1]A5 size, I genuinely thought that I was done with a bigger size binder. I really didn't think any more about it until someone mentioned that the Domino Snakes are still available in the Filofax Germany sale. With my business head on, I had a nose and snapped up a bronze A5 to sell at a later date. Hmm, and then I realised that I was getting excited about it being delivered and tore into the box a bit too quickly for something that is just meant to be 'stock'! However, I restrained myself and carefully packed it away into a padded envelope.

I'm in the process of a fairly extensive sort through of my belongings, which means that my in-tray is constantly full and it all feels quite chaotic. I don't like it and I feel I'm going a bit crazy as sorted papers keep getting accidentally mixed back in with unprocessed stuff, aargh! And then a light bulb came on to use the A5 Snake for paperwork where I've finished the thinking and it's just ready to be actioned. My lovely husband just grinned at me as I chattered away, basically justifying the use of a second filofax! With my minimalist tendencies, I had been dead set on only owning one filo, but if a second one truly helps me get more organised then I don't mind so much.



[2]

I previously briefly owned a personal size Domino Snake in the paler, more natural colour but I think the bronze is so much more glamorous in a nicely understated way! I haven't had it long, but I think that the black interior and elastic closure will wear better than the paler versions on the other Dominoes. I met the lovely Jess and [3]her A5 at the recent London meet up and I was amazed at how much it can fit in!



[4]



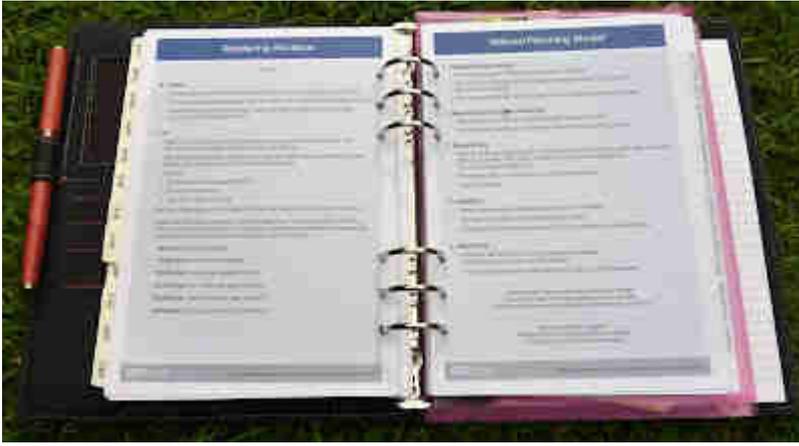
[5]



[6]



[7]



[8]



[9]

Here's what I'm planning on using it for:

- Paperwork ready to be actioned
- Jan-Dec dividers as my [10]tickler file
- Holding reading material
- Storing project support material
- Generally for paperwork that would be too bulky to store in my personal Malden
- Using my [11]plastic wallet to help me process papers.

I've never owned a Domino before, but I've always admired the simplicity of their design and feel that the Snake cover adds a bit of extra class as well. I'm curious, are there many other Domino Snake owners out there? (I know of some of you, but I wonder how popular the model was/is as it's been discontinued from Filofax UK for some time)

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/all-change-on-filofax-front-guest-post.html>
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-8csdXBCW3Dw/UG8Gj0hr8_I/AAAAAAAAA1I/dU9Q2qtieLU/s1600/P1030031.JPG
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2010/04/guest-post-jesss-a5-snake-domino.html>
4. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-siJIK2zk9U4/UGw75ssdHhI/AAAAAAAAAw8/BFu2Fa674QI/s1600/P1030055.JPG>
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/--fDUG3DU5tQ/UGw8RdHZwXI/AAAAAAAAAxQ/9relgSNTbmQ/s1600/P1030058.JPG>
6. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-gIJ9ai0v4TM/UGw8Uka9ScI/AAAAAAAAAxY/RkP-w0imkqw/s1600/P1030059.JPG>
7. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-JdyqpN1YuSA/UGw8XguniKI/AAAAAAAAAxg/mRSFZvR0pS4/s1600/P1030061.JPG>
8. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-CnfqDhJ6NHk/UGw8aVmi5fI/AAAAAAAAAxs/cwnx56pBNmI/s1600/P1030062.JPG>
9. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-vsg5F-_wffg/UGw8dBdnhQI/AAAAAAAAAx0/9hu8H0Lyn-o/s1600/P1030063.JPG

10. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tickler_file

11. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/plastic-wallet-hack.html>

LJ (2012-10-14 02:22:16)

Gah!!! I managed to resist the A5 in bronze when I went back to the website to get the personal bronze for my little boy for Christmas (and that was hard), but seeing it again - I really, really, want one!!! I love the Dominoes, they are such a great staple to have, but the bronze snake adds a touch of class and elegance :o)

Lime Tree (2012-10-14 02:53:23)

Oooohhhh soooo pretty! It would well with my snake natural personal one :D

Anne (2012-10-14 03:18:53)

Great post, moving to a5 size for better organisation. Thank you

Alison Reeves (2012-10-14 04:49:37)

I have a snake bronze in both personal and A5. In a strange way I sort of prefer it to much more expensive models. Not sure why - it just appeals. It also seems very sturdy and well made.

janet (2012-10-14 06:10:26)

I have two Bronze Domino Snakes in A5 - they are light, stunningly gorgeous and wear well. I also like the faux suedey inside. They really wear well and of all my Filos they garner the most compliments!

Lily (2012-10-14 07:55:00)

I have a Personal Bronze Domino Snake that I had to order from the German site and I absolutely love it, it's so shiny, and as someone said does look quite sturdy.

Jen M (2012-10-14 10:46:49)

What a beautiful FILO!

Is there anyone out there who would order a bronze personal for me and ship to the US? My email is jen6425@comcast.net and I would be happy to advance payment via PayPal.

Thanks so much for considering.

Jen

Frederique (2012-10-14 11:35:28)

I have an A5 Domino Snake in DARK BROWN (not BRONZE), purchased recently for 26 euros on filofax.de. Until this one, I only had personal/slimline/compacts : the same paper size, very practical.

But after seeing people with A5, here or other places on the web, I couldn't pass on the half price offer, and the prospect of 30mm rings :)

I honestly tried to find a use for it, but rewriting things from one filo to another is a pain, I wasn't able to find another use for it, so now, it is sitting on a shelf.

I would be happy to send it to you; it is in excellent, almost new condition, no marks or wear; it lays absolutely flat; would come with cream 1-6 and A-Z dividers, address sheets, colored paper, the full white notepad (unused), the business card holder and black today ruler it came with.

And, there's a diary too, of course : academic WO2P in english, from AUG-12 to JUL-13 (in english, therefore, plenty of space to write, each day has the same size, including sat/sun); I think I kept the vertical WO2P in German for 2013 that came with the filo, I will send it along if I find it again :)

Would you agree on 15 euros + shipping (from France) ?

I paid it 26 euros on filofax.de.

Please contact me at 702723@gmail.com.

(You or anyone else interested, if Jen has already received an offer :)

Nat (2012-10-14 11:57:37)

Hi Jen!

Just tried to contact you via email but it couldn't be delivered.

I live in Germany and wouldn't mind ordering the Filo for you. I'm thinking of placing an order anyway.

So, if you're interested let me know.

Natalie (nycta@web.de)

Jen M (2012-10-14 12:29:10)

Hi Natalie

That would be wonderful! Thank you!

Please tell me where to send the Paypal \$ and how much.

Jen

Jen M (2012-10-14 12:32:58)

Hello Frederique-

Thank you so much for your offer, but I really would like the personal size and Natalie has kindly offered to get one for me. I wish you success in finding a buyer - I am certain another Philofaxy member will take you up on the offer :)

Best - Jen

Frederique (2012-10-14 12:56:21)

Oops, indeed, the Philofaxy post was for an A5 and I read your comment too quickly, didn't realize you were looking for a personal one, sorry !!

But yes, I've already have someone else contact me, so my A5 is about to get a new home, I think :)

I hope you'll enjoy your Snake Domino !

Nat (2012-10-14 13:14:51)

Hi Jennifer,

thanks for the quick response. My email couldn't get through to you again. I'm so sorry. Do you have any other email I might try.

The Domino Snake Personal Bronze is in the basket. I let you know about the payment details after your Filo arrives here and I checked about the prizes of shipping to US.

Natalie

Jen M (2012-10-14 14:11:48)

Hi Natalie -

Are you trying the google or the comcast email address?

Did u receive my email?

Jen

Nat (2012-10-14 14:22:28)

Yes I did get yours then I clicked the reply-Button and got an error message from my provider.

I'm trying the comcast address. I will try again tomorrow from my work email maybe that will work. Do you have a google email too?

The order on the filo is already placed.

Jen M (2012-10-14 14:33:02)

This is too strange.....I do have a google but don't use it. I will keep watching this post in case you can't get through.

I am so pleased - thank u so much for reaching out !

Jen

David Popely (2012-10-16 03:17:04)

hi Anita

I expect you're already aware, but have you discovered Leo Babauta's blog at mmlist.com? you might find it interesting. Also, he has a second site at www.zenhabits.com

David

Anita (2012-10-16 04:58:52)

Hi David, thanks for the info about Leo Babauta's sites & yes, I've been a fan of his for quite some time now :)

Reader Under the Spotlight - Keji (2012-10-15 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Today I would like to introduce you to Keji

Hi Filofax aficionados :-D. I'm Keji, 28 years old and live in South East London. I work full time as an events co-ordinator for a very well known supermarket chain (ching ching ;-D) and volunteer part time with a great organisation called Victim Support. If you're already thinking that's a pretty full life, I'm also studying for my MA, have just started an events company with a very good friend and I have an incredibly busy social life – exactly why I need an organiser, whew!!! Although I'm a relatively recent convert to Filofax and ringed agendas I've always been an addict for stationary and all things tech.

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

I've had many incarnations of the 'Funfax' organiser when I was much younger, but the first real Filofax I ever bought was a personal aqua Chameleon, just June of this year. I got the Chameleon purely by chance whilst I was searching desperately for an A5 aqua Finsbury. It was so cheap on eBay (just over £14 BNIB with inserts) that I just went for it. When it came I was totally smitten and couldn't figure out why I hadn't tried a ringed agenda earlier. A few days later I found an A5 aqua Finsbury on the Philofaxy Adspot and purchased that too and now my addiction to all things Filofax has just increased rapidly, lol.

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

As I mentioned previously, before Filofax I had never used a ringed agenda and truthfully there hasn't been any other brand that has really piqued my interest. Yes, I'm still overwhelming in love with Filofax despite some of their recent questionable brand decisions and quality control issues. I have however, always used some sort of paper agenda since secondary school. These were usually bound and purchased either from WH Smiths or Paperchase.

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

It's a toss-up between my personal compact grey Osterley (another bargain from eBay) and my A5 purple Malden. Both of them are just so beautiful to look at, smell and touch. I know they are completely different in size, style and texture but I'm a Gemini so it just means that both satisfy all my cravings simultaneously.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

At the moment I have 4 Filofaxes. 2 are A5's, 1 is a compact personal and 1 is a standard personal. This list doesn't include the other 1 I have winding its way down to me which is the personal red Amazona.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I have defiantly acquired way too many Filofaxes lately but they all have specific purposes. My compact Osterley is currently my everyday agenda. It was an experiment to see whether I could work with a slimmer dairy but no, I can't, lol. I like my Filofaxes fat and full with everything I need in them and I had to make too many cuts with the compact. Once I receive the personal red Amazona this will become my everyday agenda and the compact Osterley will be relegated to a travel Filofax as I have a case of the Wanderlust and I think its slimline size will be perfect for this.

My personal aqua Chameleon is now an archive binder.

My A5 aqua Finsbury is split between housing the stuff for my MA program and my new business venture. Finally my A5 purple Malden is a stay-at-home "Me" binder, an idea that I got from Angela of PaperLoveStory.com but in which I have expanded to have 14 sections (eek!!).

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

First of all Filofaxes are just really beautiful to look at and touch. The important thing about having an agenda is that you use it, and having something that looks pleasing and make it a joy to use is half the battle. In terms of practicality, I really love how customisable and personal you can make your Filofax. There's just no end to how you can set it up so that it works for you. I also really love that you can carry pretty much keep everything you need in one place. This "Life in one place" and customisation is what really bought me over to the ringed agenda and Filofax.

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

I'm really into bright and strong colours so more Filofaxes that feature this would be fantastic – I'm really craving the orange Osterley that I've seen advertised on City Organiser (yum :-D). I also like that Filofax is thinking about how agendas and technology can converge such as with the new Filofax and iPad Malden and Pennybridge Zips. It would be great if there were Filofaxes with smart phone pocket (the phone pocket on the Temperley designed Filofax was the only thing I liked about that collaboration). Finally more inserts in cotton cream would be a dream. Why I can't get month on 2 pages in this is beyond my comprehension.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

My everyday Filofax is always with me, whether in my bag when I'm out and about; on my desk at work or on my bedside table at home. Often I carry my agenda in my hand as I move from room to room, just in case!!! The others are either placed on my desk when in use and on my bookshelf when not.

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

Oh, you shouldn't ask a shopaholic this!!! It's like asking a mother to pick her favourite child. I can't do it, lol. I am, however, looking at maybe, possibly getting an A5 Cuban zip if I ever come across one for a good price on eBay. Also a personal purple and crimson Malden in the future just to have it in my collection and because I love those colours so much.

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

£70 on my A5 purple Malden. Another fantastic deal I got during a visit to the wonderful City Organiser whilst at the Philofaxy meet up last month.

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

Ohhh it's time for me to fangirl!!! I literally love everything about Philofaxy. I mean everything. From the great community of people who are always so nice and helpful; to the informative and inspiring articles; to the great templates (Filofax take note) to the enabling Adspot that I check every single day even though I am in no need for another Filofax :-D.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

What??? Sorry, this question does not compute. Next question please ;-D.

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

I haven't bought any new music for a few years now. I tend to re-listen to my favourite tracks and albums that I've had for ages. If I do want to listen to any new music I'll listen to them on sites like as YouTube or Spotify.

Thank you Keji for going under the spotlight

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-P8l1mn_zgClw/UHmyaLTjhhvI/AAAAAAAAANrg/U8dIR9qP7cI/s1600/Picture+of+me+1.png

Alison Reeves (2012-10-15 12:31:18)

So nice to 'meet' you Keji - you have really got the filofax bug! I went to a meeting today and two ladies brought out their filofaxes! So nice to see them in use. I've told them both about Philofaxy so hopefully we might see them here.

Anita (2012-10-15 13:03:06)

It was lovely to meet you at the London meet up & great to find out more about you here :) I loved your very fat Chameleon!

David Popely (2012-10-16 03:20:38)

Great post Keji - lovely to meet you, and another South East Londoner! Although I'm in Wales now, I spent the first 50 years of my life in Catford/Lewisham/Hither Green, so I know it well - great area to live. Hope to meet you at a future Philofaxy get-together.....

Keji (2012-10-16 08:19:32)

Hi Everyone,

thank you so much guys for welcoming me into the fold. Even if Filofax wasn't for me I'd stick around just for the community :-D

Alison - love that you promote Philofaxy at every turn. I also like Filofax spotting and telling others about the community. Do you know what models the two ladies were using?

Anita - it was fab meeting you too. I'm obsessed with you A5 set up and I've made my mind up. Next pay day I'll be purchasing a bronze Domino in A5 and personal. Also you know I need to get a personal purple Malden too. Enablers unite!!!

David - thank you, I'm glad you enjoyed the post. You used to live not too far from me. I currently in Greenwich but went to Christ The King Sixth Form Collge in Lewisham so I'm very familiar with the area. I'll be at the November meet up too, so it will be good to finally meet you in person.

David Popely (2012-10-16 08:22:14)

Hi Keji

Definitely not far.....I used to live on the new development on the site of the old Hither Green Hospital....

Looking forward to meeting you in November

David

Free For All Tuesday No 89 (2012-10-16 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have.

So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypHOYfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

SSA (2012-10-16 02:01:01)

a rant more than a question: Filofax do not sell the A4 notepad that is at the back of the A4 binder when you buy it new. How annoying. grrr. PS == yes I bought an A4 recently for work purposes. (watch this space to see how its going)

Steve Morton (2012-10-16 02:11:54)

I don't think they sell them because you can pick up an A4 refill pad in just about any shop with the standard 4 hole spacing already punched in it. This naturally assumes you are in Europe? In the US it might be different, but try Amazon.

Alison (2012-10-16 03:47:31)

I'm curious as to when any A5 Maldens or Holborns may come out in new colours or if there are any binders similar to these in the pipeline, thanks in advance :)

Alison Reeves (2012-10-16 05:07:13)

When making your own dividers, what is the clear material I need to get to put around the actual tabs to stop them wearing? I think it is some sort of self adhesive tape, but not sure which is best!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-16 05:14:43)

Can anyone suggest other supplies of diary inserts that are really nice quality, fit a personal, and are available in the UK. I can think of Aspinal, Mont Blanc but are there any others?

David Popely (2012-10-16 05:17:37)

Staples may have something (and haven't they just started carrying a new range of Martha Stewart stuff if you're into that sort of thing?). Also maybe Paperchase.....

Alison Reeves (2012-10-16 05:27:27)

Hi David - no the Martha Stewart range doesn't include this type of refill (was in there yesterday actually). Not sure of the paper quality of Paperchase (does anyone know?) The Staples I visited had a very poor showing of Filofax inserts - most of the slots were empty!

David Popely (2012-10-16 05:31:03)

WH Smith are **very** poor as well these days (so poor that I forgot to mention them in my previous, although they do do their own inserts). One thing WHS **is** good for are budget backs of plain white personal pre-punched paper if you like printing stuff onto single sheets. Of course, if you're a Cotton Cream user you're out of luck.....

Clamball (2012-10-16 05:35:54)

I ordered this Metropol pocket in red from Amazon for the sum of £5.75, great value. http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/B000SHOXQM/ref=oh_details_o00_s00_i02

JasJan (2012-10-16 06:09:56)

I know some of the European Filofax sites are selling the grey Holborn. I was hoping for brighter colours.

Steve Morton (2012-10-16 06:11:44)

Unlikely to hear any snippets on new products/colours until after Christmas.... but as always if anything comes my way that I'm allowed to make public....then you will read about it here!

JasJan (2012-10-16 06:15:47)

What about Smythson, expensive though. I quite like the Organized Mum inserts as well.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-16 06:55:18)

Not strictly Filofax, but they are my favourite pens to use in my Filofax, so...

Does anyone know if there are pen cartridges/refills available in the UK to refill my Pilot Hi-tec-C Coletos? I LOVE these pens so much- but I have run out of black ink and am soon going to run out of other colours! The individual colour refills aren't easily available, and although I have seen sets on ebay, I don't want to spend much money. I have been through my pen box to see if any biro refills will fit, including Bic 4-colour refills, but nope! Does anyone know any pens available in the UK where refills will work in the Pilot Coletos? Thanks!!

Steve Morton (2012-10-16 07:01:02)

I'm sure I've seen these over here in France. I will have to look again next time I'm in the shops. I will let you know.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-16 07:04:54)

Thanks! I think they are Japanese, they seem to be readily available on ebay from Asia, and of course from JETpens for US people, but not available here!!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-16 07:06:37)

If you didn't already know, Filofax recently released the name of the winner of the Filofax design competition: <http://www.filofax.co.uk/aboutus/news.asp?newsId=157>
Hopefully we will get some good designs of files now!

katka (2012-10-16 07:22:49)

I'm on the same hunt. Mont Blanc was great few years ago, but they started to use rubbish paper, so I wouldn't recommend them anymore. I saw LV inserts in my friend's agenda and it's really good quality paper, but really expensive. But still cheaper than Smythson.

PaperMeister (2012-10-16 07:26:15)

I bought a used pocket Kensington a few weeks back. The owner said it was from 1999.

It's worn very well, but I noticed the rings aren't centered. The top ring clamp sticks out maybe 1/16 of an inch with the top of the wallet, but the bottom part is a good 1/4 in above the bottom of the wallet.

Is this common?

Alison Reeves (2012-10-16 07:44:24)

Try here: <http://www.stationeryart.com/pilot-m-10.html>

or here: http://www.cultpens.com/acatalog/Pilot_Refills.html

or here: http://www.tigerpens.co.uk/acatalog/Pilot_Refill_Centre_.html

I'm a bit tempted by these pens myself - do they write nicely?

industrious housewife (2012-10-16 08:36:43)

Does anyone know of a way to fix rings with gaps?

Steve Morton (2012-10-16 08:39:56)

If it's still fairly new? Then return it to Filofax or the retailer.

From our FAQ page:

Would you please send the organiser back to the FREEPOST (free of charge) address shown on the despatch note that would have been included with your order.

Filofax UK Returns

c/o Charles Letts & Co Ltd

FREEPOST RSXH-CCAY-HBAL

Dalkeith

EH22 2NE

Please remove all personal papers and belongings and also include a daytime delivery address and telephone number. If you would like to contact them direct the number is 08705 143 702

industrious housewife (2012-10-16 08:39:58)

I'm very A4 curious, but they are very pricey. The colour and design range is very limited too. I guess as it's mostly business users, there isn't the demand.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-16 08:52:31)

Hi Alison! Thanks, I'll check those out! They write brilliantly! A very fine point, which I like, and they don't bleed through Filofax paper!! I really like them, especially as I can have a pencil insert in it with all my inks!

industrious housewife (2012-10-16 09:02:28)

No, it's a second hand Ranger I bought a few months ago from ebay.

Steve Morton (2012-10-16 09:04:07)

OK are the rings other than the gap in alignment? Up and down, side to side? IE if you just squeeze them together do they meet without and step in the join?

industrious housewife (2012-10-16 09:10:54)

It's the fourth and fifth rings from the top, the fourth is ever so slightly out of alignment, but mainly meets.

Ray Blake (2012-10-16 09:44:07)

It's [1]this stuff.

1. http://www.amazon.co.uk/Cover-Film-For-Books-Etc/dp/B000TBYL46/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1350394961&sr=8-1

laura jane (2012-10-16 10:11:49)

The Paperchase inserts are very good quality, highly recommend them x

JasJan (2012-10-16 10:21:02)

Does anybody journal in their filofax? I was using a 2dpp and using the right hand page. I want to get back to week on 2 page though. Not sure if a separate journal section would work.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-16 10:23:05)

Thank you Ray!

natalie (2012-10-16 11:38:00)

Is this one of the things about buying a vintage or second hand Filofax?

We all use the levers to open the rings but perhaps a previous owner might not have been so careful/gentle with it. I have three second hand ones and I just accept that they won't be perfect, but I suppose it depends how bad it is.

LFZ (2012-10-16 14:30:15)

Does anyone know of any retailers in DC or Maryland that carry a variety of Filofax binders? I'm interested in the compact size but would love to see it in person first.

thanks!

industrious housewife (2012-10-16 16:08:47)

I'm annoyed as I don't think I could sell it on without disclosing the issue. I think I'll use it for something for now, I'm not as in love with the model as I thought I was going to be anyway, and if I can't find a way to fix it it'll have to go into the carboot sale pile.

Cheryl (2012-10-16 16:49:18)

Does anyone know of any page protectors that would fit an A5 with the correct ring hole configuration? I'm not referring to those thick plastic ones Filofax sells. I'm just looking for the standard thinner clear page protectors. I have 8.5 x 11 size and also 5.5 x 8 size that are standard here in the US but of course they don't have the correct hole spacing and trying to punch new holes in plastic with any kind of hole punch can be a nightmare! I can use my heavy duty single hole punch but that would take too long as I'm looking for a bundle of page protectors not just a few. Any ideas who might have these online? thank you!

Cheryl (2012-10-16 16:54:31)

Ohhh great question Alison; I've been wondering the same and thanks for the link Ray!

Kelly Marriott (2012-10-16 17:12:59)

Does anyone use a separate non Filofax diary (Quo Vadis, Moleskine, etc) and a Filofax for everything else, like project planning, goals, etc.? it seems redundant I like the Quo Vadis planners much better.

Cheryl (2012-10-16 17:16:45)

I did find one online source \$48 for a box of 100; wow-didn't need that many but I may invest, at least I'll have them. But if anyone else knows of a source. Probably a lot of 25-50 would last me forever.

opheliatudeaux (2012-10-16 18:02:24)

This comment has been removed by the author.

opheliatudeaux (2012-10-16 18:02:43)

I use a google calendar, as I have to share info with my semi-long-distance bf. The diary in my Filofax is used as a food/spending/gym diary, plus GTD/planning stuff.

indigogarden (2012-10-16 18:16:32)

I do, Kelly. I have a pocket moleskine diary for my planning needs. Then I use a slimline brown holborn as a wallet, travel guide, receipt holder and a phone directory. The diary part was bulking the slimline too much, now everything fits in my bag well. I've been happy with this arrangement since my diary needs are small.

the Merry Lemon (2012-10-16 19:40:01)

You can try Fahrney's Pens in DC, or Paradise Pen store, in most malls.

the Merry Lemon (2012-10-16 19:42:14)

I do. I use a Planner Pad for everyday planning. I use my filofaxes as notebooks, to store information.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-16 22:42:43)

I journal in my FC 2ppd. I have for years. If I have to get a separate book, I won't do it. I've been playing around with FF 2ppd and am journaling on that, too.

Alison (2012-10-17 06:58:59)

Don't fancy a grey Holborn :(

Thanks Steve, i'll have to be patient then lol :)

Alison (2012-10-17 07:04:33)

I use my A5 for Journaling, don't bother using a diary just have a separate Journal section and write on whatever paper I fancy at the time :)

baggirl (2012-10-17 17:37:55)

I use Quo Vadis inserts - which I buy online- because I absolutely love the paper and the layout.

Web Finds - 16 October 2012 (2012-10-16 11:00) - Steve Morton

Here are this weeks posts.

1. [1]The Filofax expenses envelope revisited - My Life All in One Place
2. [2]So What Did I Decide?: A Franklin Covey Haul - The Crazy Life of J
3. [3]Filofax Family Lifestyles Forms - Circus Life with Disturbed Mamacita
4. [4]filofax week #26 - Paper Lovestory
5. [5]Filofax Diary Dilemma - The Storage Studio
6. [6]How to keep my orche Malden scratch free - All Filo
7. [7]Treatment with shea butter lotion smooth away scratch marks on my Malden!! - All Filo
8. [8]Filofax Pocket: Hole Punching & Living with a Smaller Format! - Cat's Corner
9. [9]Flexing my organisational skills - Just an Essex girl.
10. [10]My favourite places in Bath - Lily, actually
11. [11]Planner In Overdrive - Well Planned Life
12. [12]Why am I looking at another organiser?? - Paper Pens Ink
13. [13]Day Timer Portable Fold-Out Monthly Divider - Cloudberry Musing
14. [14]Filofax enabling on a budget.... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
15. [15]Got Me a Filofax - The Occasional Sarah
16. [16]Climbing Back on the Low Carb Wagon - Anthannon
17. [17]Filey smiley - Fegrig
18. [18]Week 3 - Filofax College, Downsizing - by Paperlovestory - Imysworld
19. [19]guest post by Angel, all the way from Spain! - Paper Lovestory
20. [20]My Filofax Week #3 - Glossette
21. [21]My new set-up, part two - Honey & Filofaxes
22. [22]Cover Story - Winner announced! - Filofax UK
23. [23]The New Me Part 2 !!! - Filo Obsessed
24. [24]Journalling School - jetzt als Download - Filomaniac
25. [25]I won a Domino on eBay :) - Jagged Little Thoughts
26. [26]A step in the right (set-up) direction - The Crazy Suburban Mom
27. [27]Filofax Regency, How I am using it.... - Imysworld
28. [28]All Stars Guest Post: Lime Tree - Filofax Swap 4! - Vanjilla
29. [29]A4 Filofax and Looper review - Planner Addict
30. [30]Personal Black Amazona FOR SALE! - Imysworld

There are a limited number of places still available for the next [31]Philofaxy London Meet Up, read the post here if you are interested in attending.

And this weeks videos:

IFRAME: [32]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/zwOdySv07mc?rel=0>

IFRAME: [33]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/2upIZGxAeK4?rel=0>

IFRAME: [34]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Gi6MIoZ6Mqo?rel=0>

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/QOwrIPZLjRw?rel=0>

IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/kXFjWjXWq6I?rel=0>

IFRAME: [37]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/rILOyHqt29w?rel=0>

IFRAME: [38]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/FKnvdaquhsw?rel=0>

IFRAME: [39]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/G8Ny7QXL2J4?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/the-filofax-expenses-envelope-revisited.html>
2. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/10/so-what-did-i-decide-franklin-covey-haul.html>
3. <http://mamacitascircus.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-family-lifestyles-forms.html>
4. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/filofax-week-26.html>
5. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-diary-dilemma.html>
6. <http://tracyoy.wordpress.com/2012/10/13/how-to-keep-my-orche-malden-scratch-free/>
7. <http://tracyoy.wordpress.com/2012/10/15/treatment-with-shea-butter-lotion-smooth-away-scratch-marks-on-my-malden/>
8. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2012/10/filofax-pocket-hole-punch/>
9. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/10/flexing-my-organisational-skills.html>
10. <http://lilyactually.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-favourite-places-in-bath.html>
11. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/planner-in-overdrive.html>
12. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/10/ive-just-done-series-on-where-are-my.html>
13. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/day-timer-portable-fold-out-monthly.html>
14. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/filofax-enabling-on-budget.html>
15. <http://theoccasionalsarah.wordpress.com/2012/10/14/got-me-a-filofax/>
16. <http://anthannon.blogspot.fr/2012/10/climbing-back-on-low-carb-wagon.html>
17. <http://www.fegrig.com/2012/10/filey-smiley.html>
18. http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/week-3-filofax-college-downsizing-by_15.html
19. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/guest-post-by-angel-all-way-from-spain.html>
20. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/10/14/my-filofax-week-3/>
21. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-new-set-up-part-two.html>
22. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/aboutus/news.asp?newsId=157>
23. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/10/the-new-me-part-2.html>
24. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/journaling-school-jetzt-als-download.html>
25. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/i-won-domino-on-ebay.html>
26. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/a-step-in-right-set-up-direction.html>
27. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-regency-how-i-am-using-it.html>
28. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/10/all-stars-guest-post-lime-tree-filofax.html>
29. <http://planneraddict.wordpress.com/2012/10/09/a4-filofax-and-looper-review/>
30. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/personal-black-amazona-for-sale.html>
31. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/10/philofaxy-meet-up-london-november-2012.html>
32. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/zwOdySv07mc?rel=0>
33. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/2upIZGxAeK4?rel=0>

34. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Gi6MIoZ6Mqo?rel=0>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Q0wrIPZLjRw?rel=0>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/kXFjWjXWq6I?rel=0>
37. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/rLL0yHqt29w?rel=0>
38. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/FKnvdaquhsw?rel=0>
39. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/G8Ny7QXL2J4?rel=0>

WeirdRockStar (2012-10-16 13:22:13)

An inneresting small article here

[http://www.apartmenttherapy.com/whats-your-favorite-note-taking-devi ce-178683](http://www.apartmenttherapy.com/whats-your-favorite-note-taking-devi-ce-178683)

Filofax being mentioned in the comments.

Filofax Cross M2 - Review (2012-10-17 00:00) - Steve Morton

Although I've posted about the [1]M2 size before, I've never had one in my hands to be able to see what this size/format is like.

Recently some of these M2 organisers have been appearing on Ebay, some I must say at higher prices than I was prepared to pay. But with thanks to Tracy, she spotted one going for £15 plus postage, but they would only post to UK, so Tracy kindly offered to purchase it on my behalf and bring it along to the meet up in London.



[2]

So here it is the Filofax Cross M2 in a very light shade of blue, may be not a very manly colour I will agree, but it is the same colour as a lot of shirts I wear, so I find it an acceptable colour.

The organiser is in quite good condition, the leather has some tiny cracks in the surface on the clasp, but you need to use a magnifier to see them. The stitching is all in tact. The only thing I found odd about it was the smell of the interior, slightly musty as if it had been stored for some time.

After cleaning the leather the smell was still there so I soaked some kitchen paper towel in some liquid fabric refreshener ([3]Febreze). then I put that in the long back pocket and left it over night. It hasn't totally gone but it is a lot better than it was at first.

The M2 organisers are no longer sold by Filofax, but they still sell inserts for this size. The paper size is 64 x 103 mm similar to Mini which is 105 x 67 mm, the main difference is that the M2 is in landscape format rather than the usual portrait format. With a page width of 103 mm the M2 is slightly wider than Filofax Personal size (95mm) so there is plenty of width to write in.

As you can see it only has three rings, but they are the conventional 19mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") apart, so existing Filofax punches all work just fine.



[4]

Rather than buy inserts for the M2 I set about creating some of my own, to start with I've just done some ToDo lists and some lined paper. Ideal for shopping lists and the like.



[5]

The Cross does have the full length back pocket and three card slots in the front inside cover. There is also a full height pocket behind the card slots for stamps and may be other less frequently used cards. In the back inside cover there is a zipped coin pocket which has an elasticated gusset at one end, which is quite a neat design feature. Below this pocket there is a horizontal leather pen loop, which takes my Filofax Mini pen quite nicely.



[6]

It is another addition to my growing collection!!
I've created some templates for the M2:

- Addresses [7].docx [8].pdf
- Lined Paper [9].docx [10].pdf
- To Do [11].docx [12].pdf

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/10/filofax-m2-format.html>
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ToUUHtmk8iE/UGnnWSqB6-I/AAAAAAAAANmI/LsighUI8T8/s1600/IMG_3049.jpg
3. <http://www.febreze.co.uk/index.htm>
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-oRBXnjXo0Ao/UGnnXmoPU-I/AAAAAAAAANmM/T_9jGPyrKP4/s1600/IMG_3050.jpg
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-mIWkwqXXDTI/UGnnac3U0-I/AAAAAAAAANmc/xfNzOnZvA7M/s1600/IMG_3062.jpg
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-OP57AaXFVbI/UGnnZCsH8AI/AAAAAAAAANmU/Gh9bGZ5oYMM/s1600/IMG_3052.jpg
7. <http://philofaxy.com/files/m2address.docx>
8. <http://philofaxy.com/files/m2address.pdf>
9. <http://philofaxy.com/files/m2lined.docx>
10. <http://philofaxy.com/files/m2lined.pdf>
11. <http://philofaxy.com/files/m2todo.docx>
12. <http://philofaxy.com/files/m2todo.pdf>

Lime Tree (2012-10-17 01:34:20)

This is so cute! I wonder how are the original inserts for that model?!
 Anyway, I like it a lot, even the baby blue color. :)

Alison Reeves (2012-10-17 05:17:23)

I can see that this would be ideal if you didn't have loads to keep in your binder, used a very small bag, or wanted to use it as a wallet. I'm guessing they discontinued as there just wasn't enough demand.
 Personally I would prefer this to a mini as the pages look much easier to write on.

Doris (2012-10-17 05:50:55)

Looks like it would work as a wallet, more functional, better design than the M2 Balmoral I got which has neither the full-length pocket nor the coin slot. I'll be letting that go soon as I can't find a use for it. Good score!

Steve Morton (2012-10-17 06:12:11)

I think it was discontinued because Mulberry came out with something similar but with the rings at the top but still on the short side so it was more a flip type pocket book. Mulberry still have these I think...

The inserts you can still get from Filofax are here:

[1]http://www.filofax.co.uk/search/search.asp?search_string=m2

Even a diary!

And M2 still appears in the drop-down menus on the Filofax site....yet Compact doesn't!

Steve

1. http://www.filofax.co.uk/search/search.asp?search_string=m2

Alison Reeves (2012-10-17 16:35:45)

Don't get me started on the Filofax website. I've never seen such a badly organised and maintained site. I have no idea why they make it so difficult for customers to find the things they want to buy!

Frederique (2012-10-17 16:40:55)

There's one in the Filofax section of the Karstadt store in Freiburg (in Breisgau, Germany) and I have a look at it each time I go there (which is often). It's been there for ages, it would seem, but no sign of discoloration/wear/cracks/whatever.

Its color is... mustard ? beige ? light tan ? I don't know the name of the colour but it does look nice and would make a very nice and classy/manly (but minimalist) wallet : 3 card slots, a small diary and lots of paper note or to-do/to-buy list.

But the price is 65 euros... So, I never purchased it.

The only drawback I see: the diary is multi-language, therefore, there's **really** not a lot of room for each day; but of course, if you don't have that many appointments and if you use this as a diary/planner, and not full-blown-organizations-your-whole-life-in-your-filo-method, then it's close to perfection : much more functional than pocket, I think.

And the A-Z tabs are really fragile, the paper seems really less sturdy than other formats.

Thank you for your review, these are the kind of filo one never sees on Filofax-blogs (way too many maldens and the like, imho :) and now I want one too :)

Liz Vee (2012-10-18 13:33:19)

Not sure if this would work, but you could try putting it in a box next to a small container of baking soda. I have found this helps a lot of times to take thr strange odor off of things. Great find!

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 06:23:31)

Just spotted the Boston Jot Pad holder... no rings but very similar in size to the M2 I would think

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/businessdetails.asp?catId=6 &productId=569>

Steve

Embracing (Filofax) change - part 1 (2012-10-18 00:00) - Anita Lim

I am sad to announce that my beautiful purple Malden developed some ring issues and has been returned. I noticed with some disbelief that the tiny gaps on the two lower rings had got bigger, and the bottom one was starting to move out of alignment. I have been offered a refund as the variations in the Malden leather mean that I'd only want to get a replacement in person and it's not from a local supplier unfortunately. I am such a Malden fan-girl that I initially felt a bit at a loss of what to do now, and started to regret selling my crimson one.



[1] Farewell, my lovely

However, after a bit more thought I decided that the Filofax gods are actually helping me embrace a change I was considering anyway! After seeing Imy and Tracy's compacts at the London meet up, I did realise just how chunky my Malden had become and I'm generally trying to declutter and downsize in my life. As I'd been removing more and more, it seemed silly to have such large rings with so little in it. I popped onto eBay (as you do) and to my surprise found a new scarlet slimline Adelphi for a bargain buy it now price. And then I won a new ruby slimline Deco for another great price, which means I now am in a bit of quandary... which one to keep?? So many slimlines are either in black or brown, so I was very surprised to be able to snap up two in these colours so close together.



[2]



[3]



[4]

Family shot Both slimlines were listed as new, but the Adelphi (in my opinion) show some signs of use so I have started using it as my main Filofax, with my A5 Domino Snake as back up. I have decided to split this into two parts as otherwise it would be quite a long post with all the photos, so part two to come!

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-wy0BBPkc9rw/UGxHZkseBGI/AAAAAAAAAyI/817TDCiUF_U/s1600/P1030033.JPG
2. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-JZhTeqI0600/UGxJyndJuCI/AAAAAAAAAyQ/7FWFIeuQGGU/s1600/P1030162.JPG>
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-rhP8iNOTN_U/UGxJ3goovvI/AAAAAAAAAyY/nKj601bz8QM/s1600/P1030163.JPG
4. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-04DMielj0cw/UGxJ-JXpvFI/AAAAAAAAAyG/s6LlKIbyqGc/s1600/P1030171.JPG>

Paul B (2012-10-18 00:31:20)

I think the one on the left looks more classy by far, while the one on the right looks like it holds more in terms of pockets. So my vote goes for the one on the left! As an aside, I can't see how Filofax can afford NOT to sort out their quality control issues. The cost to them in returns alone must be severely hitting their bottom line.

Paul B (2012-10-18 00:31:43)

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Stephanie (2012-10-18 00:40:06)

I have the personal adelphi (not the compact) and I love the pockets in it. It can easily double as my wallet with all that space

Savannah (2012-10-18 00:51:38)

The Deco wins by far and I'm not even the glam type. I'd like to know how your using your slimline at some time if you wouldn't mind?

austinlinda (2012-10-18 04:05:58)

The Deco color and general leather quality seem to be superior to the Adelphi, in my opinion.

Jarfm.com (2012-10-18 06:19:10)

The Deco looks fab! :)

Jarfm.com (2012-10-18 06:20:02)

The Deco looks fab! ;)

crofter (2012-10-18 07:56:14)

Deco.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-18 09:26:46)

Personally, I loved the adelphi when it came out (in all sizes) and thought it looked a bit 'Chanel' like in design. However in the flesh I didn't like the pockets on all the sizes. I couldn't understand how they could be described as slimline with those huge pockets which were almost as wide as the rings! I still have my very little used slimline. I can see how it would be great if you wanted to use it as a wallet as well. So on balance my personal vote would be with the Deco as the leather on those is sumptuous.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-18 09:28:50)

Oh and I can see the snake peeping out of the picture - despite being a cheaper model I love mine - I have a personal and an A5 (which is probably just greedy!).

LJ (2012-10-18 11:56:13)

Deco, deco, deoc... :-)

Alison (2012-10-18 12:34:54)

Definitely the Deco!! :-)

Maus (2012-10-18 13:33:30)

Anita, I vote for the Deco, too!

What a pity that they don't exist in the Compact size...

Lime Tree (2012-10-18 15:04:16)

Deco!!! :)

Lime Tree (2012-10-18 15:06:06)

Yeah! I just noticed that now! Beautiful with that Snake gold background. Definitely Deco even more now! :)

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-18 16:01:02)

It really is a no brainer... the deco looks more luxurious, richer, warmer.. need I say more ... the other gives me cheap argos vibe

kanalt (2012-10-18 16:35:17)

I also suggest the deco!

Anita (2012-10-18 17:08:57)

Hi Savannah, I will be doing a post on my slimline set up once I've been using it for a bit longer.

Anthony Hill (2012-10-18 17:51:16)

Yes Anita the Deco wins everytime, it's a truly luxurious binder I'd buy one in Red if the price was right. Looking forward to your Part Two of your Adlephi and Domino.

Free for All Friday No. 205 (2012-10-19 00:01) - Nan

At various times, organizer manufacturers like Filofax, Day Runner, and Franklin Covey have attempted to unite the paper world with the electronic one. That has included things like a binder or portfolio that can accommodate a Palm Pilot or iPad and a paper organizer side-by-side. Or something as simple as leaves designed for listing favorite websites.

Do you keep your calendar on paper but your contacts list on your cellphone? How do you combine (or separate) your paper-based and digital information?

Hamish MacBear (2012-10-19 01:32:05)

I have an A5 filofax with 2 diaries - week on 2 pages (columns), and the business page per day. But I keep my master to-do list online (computer / smartphone), checking it against my diary each day and adding tasks to the relevant days in my diary. I also print out my to-do list and insert it in my day per page diary.

Contacts are on my phone but I keep a printed list at the back of my diary (filofax address software).

I see no reason why paper-based and electronic diaries and task lists can't work together - each has its strengths and weaknesses. Electronic task lists are great for sending reminders and the ease with which you can reorganise the list, but I prefer my diary on paper because you can see your week at a glance. Combining the paper diary and electronic task list is easy with daily and weekly reviews.

Much as I love my Android gadgets, I don't ever see me having just an electronic diary. I have tried it before and it just doesn't work for me.

laura jane (2012-10-19 02:21:30)

Totally agree with you there, if I don't have my Filofax with me I put dates on my iPhone then transfer when I get home. I keep addresses in my Filo but not on my phone, it would take forever to write down all my contact numbers from my phone but I have all our household contacts like gas and electric, water, insurance in my Filofax for easy access. I don't think I could ever just use my iPhone. It's pretty cool but the battery drains so quick as I basically surf Safari every lunch time!

Cloudberry (2012-10-19 03:56:47)

My calendar changes so frequently that it became a full time job trying to maintain a duplicate in a paper diary, so I gave up. I now print out my Outlook (work week view) and punch it into my FF. I also print out a month view and fold it into a pocket. Phone numbers are maintained in my phone.

Now you mention it, I no longer have one place to store addresses...thinking about it, I'd like a separate small address book that can be kept alongside my letters and writing paper/envelopes.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-19 04:18:08)

Addresses - Outlook/iPhone

WWW passwords - FF

Diary - Outlook/iPhone/FF

Planning - FF

Checklists - FF

Lists generally - FF

To Do/Projects/Tasks - under review, nothing seems perfect yet - am looking at Wunderlist (viewable/updateable on laptop, iPad and iPhone) bring down 3-4 tasks at a time to my FF to action at a time and get ticked off. This would allow me more flexible sorting of lists, but the joy of writing them down and crossing them off - oh and a history of achievements so I can see what I have done. Just waiting for them to introduce nesting lists and reminders (both imminent).

By the way - what do you all think about the hybrid binders FF are now populating their website with which join rings and electronics? They have introduced both binder and flex options. I'm not sure about it as I wonder just how bulky it will all get - I'm sure some will love it, but I'm not sure.

Doris (2012-10-19 04:22:14)

I've been waiting for FFAF because of a niggling question on the vintage models: which ones have the 2 pen loops and a buttery soft leather. I've seen the Cavendish and Portland on some videos and blogs, but am also curious about the others - Winchester, Kent, Kensington, etc.

I know there are some aficionados here so I would appreciate any thoughts/inputs.

Thanks in advance.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-19 04:23:33)

I used to use my iPhone for my diary, but I never connected with it properly! It was such a relief to go back to paper! I would choose a good pen and nice paper over every cool iPad etc device, if it wasn't for the ease that word processing software brings to writing essays! I feel like I connect more with the stuff I write down when I put it on paper, and I can remember it better!

But there is always that worry that I will lose my handwritten notes etc, and there's no back-up for it! I use a Moleskine notebook for my uni dissertation ideas, and that notebook is my pride and joy!! Moleskine recently released a notebook that partners with Evernote- it has special paper, that once written in, you take a photo with your iPhone through the Evernote app, and it records the page for you, with handwriting recognition, that you can use to search on your phone for keywords in your notebook, and of course it creates a back-up for you. Unfortunately the app doesn't work for my new Android phone yet, so the notebook is useless for me! But to create a back-up of my notebook (and this is a good idea to back-up your files, too) just in case I left it at home one day, or even if it got lost, I used a camera to scanner app on my phone, took photos of each page of my notebook, and the app then turned it into a pdf! I have a copy on my phone, computer and portable hard drive just in case! :)

Alison (2012-10-19 05:05:57)

I have an iPhone and an iPad but I solely use my Filofax for diary app's, I have my tel no's on my iPhone everything else is in my Filofax, I tried using my iPhone/iPad but it just doesn't work for me. I wouldn't be without my iPhone or iPad but they're purely used for music, texting, the odd phone call, email, internet and the odd game or two. I just love pen and paper too much and love writing things down, technology stresses me out, writing relaxes me :-)

Sari (2012-10-19 05:16:57)

Hi, Alison, I have a Pennybridge A5 and I really like to use it when I travel. The iPad fits nicely and I can take the pages off my 'regular' binder that I want to bring along. Usually I prefer leather binders but the Penny looks and feels quite nice (not 'plastic-like') and it's very, very light - so compared to the bulk of leather binder + iPad in a cover it is much more practical - and I just have to grab one item. I can even put my Kindle in one of the pockets, too. So I am very happy with this combination of paper and electronics. greetings, Sari

Tim (2012-10-19 05:38:49)

Hi Alison - I was going to buy Wunderlist, but decided - based on many reviews - to go for Things. It's not cheap (as apps go) but I have found it easy to use and great for multi-task projects and repeating events. It automatically synchs my to-do lists on iPhone and iPad (and would do Mac laptop if I had one) and produces an excellent "Today" priority list. It's also GTD friendly!

I can see why Filofax is trying to salvage market share by introducing joint iPad/Filofax and iPad/Flex combis. Sadly, they are probably a bit too late. There are loads of excellent iPad covers already. I would suggest that not many folk are going to spend another £100+ on a Filofax version when they've probably already got both a nearly new iPad cover and a perfectly good Filofax/ Flex already! If they had launched these products two or three years ago, it would have been very different...

Anita (2012-10-19 06:19:17)

I use Google calendar (synced with hubby's iCal) & all my contacts are in Gmail, so these are with me on my iPod touch. I've tried numerous to-do apps & online list managers, but always come back to my filofax. Planning, tasks, lists, thoughts & the like are normally done on paper as I just get more done that way. I sometimes note down a reminder in a basic to-do app on my iPod, but this gets transferred into my filo when I get home.

Anita (2012-10-19 06:31:57)

Hi Doris, I've had two Winchesters briefly (burgundy & black king crocodile print) & both of them had pretty hard leather & only one pen loop.

austinlinda (2012-10-19 06:49:55)

This topic is one I wrestled with all the time, until I decided to use both my Filofax and my iphone. Using only my iPhone, I uncovered mistakes and missed appointments.

I think I have reached a place of comfort and accuracy with my current set up—I use my iPad for research, web surfing, and Facebook. My Filofax is best used for appointment scheduling, meal planning, and journaling. Since this arrangement is working so well, I see no reason to stop using one or the other completely. And I still get the fun of buying a new Filofax, or a new iPhone!!

Paul B (2012-10-19 07:12:54)

I have a Portland Grand with 5/4" oversize rings which has two pen loops and is the softest and best quality Filifax-branded organiser I've ever owned. I had a Pigskin in personal in the 80s which I'm sure had two loops, but it got stolen when I trustingly left it on a pub table

In London. I hope it's still in use now. The Portland Grand seems hard to find in EBay but I've seen 2 or 3 Portlands in the last 2 months. I can't recommend them enough.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-19 07:59:14)

Hi Sair - it's useful to have feedback from users and can see how it could be useful if you travel quite a bit.

Hi Tim - Wunderlist is FREE!

I have a feeling I have a copy of Things and didn't take to it - I'll review it again so thanks for the reminder.

I see what you mean about covers - I have a nice one for my iPad so am loath to change it. I've also recently moved into a personal rather than an A5 binder to see if I can manage so wouldn't want to go back just now! I suppose if I travelled more and could combine the two as Sari mentions it could be useful.

Doris (2012-10-19 09:17:33)

@Anita! Thanks for the input. I may look beyond beyond the Winchester then.

@Paul B: Does the Portland come in smaller rings as well? I'll be on the lookout for it on ebay for sure! It may be just what I'm looking for. Thanks!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-19 10:15:33)

I have an iPhone but I don't use it for planning. I have a phone list in it but no addresses. I keep information in it that I might need when I'm out - like the model number of my printer ink cartridges (I can't ever remember which one to buy when I'm out) or the model no. of my vacuum filter (again, can't remember what to buy). Otherwise, it's paper all the way.

LFZ (2012-10-19 11:04:12)

Does anyone have any suggestions for alternatives to the Filofax slimline? I like the ring size of the slimline but am not in love with the Filofax options that I have seen. Does any other company make a slimline binder that is comparable in quality to the Filofax slimline? Thank you!

indigogarden (2012-10-19 11:40:20)

I am slowly moving away from using my phone/tablet/computer to carry important daily information. My blackberry has no way to organize my numbers and I'm constantly scrolling through them to make a call, which annoys me or my phone is dead due to lack of battery and I have then have no way to make an emergency call when on the road. I'd rather have the information in my filo for quick access. No battery to go dead there. I even keep an packet of paper maps in my car now, just like I used to years ago, because my tech was constantly failing me when I needed it the most.

Currently I have my general wallet items, travel info/maps, phone directory, ToDo lists, and shopping lists in my Filofax Slimline Holborn. I keep my diary in a pocket Moleskine. Dividing the two functions keeps the paper burden weight at a minimum.

I've gone back and forth with using googlecalendar and paper, but I've had problems with the googlecalendar losing appointments or not syncing with my ipod touch properly. I still use it to track events that are not appointments or when I am in a group and many people need to see the calendar, but for personal meetings where I have to see people, I stick with paper.

Lately, I've been incorporating paper journals in my writing, although I have not given up on Scrivener for my novel or Word for general word processing. I also see the value of using Evernote to create and store backups of my work electronically via PDFs. However, it seems the more I get out of the computer, the more creative I seem to be. I wonder if that makes me old-fashioned? All I know is that it seems to work for me. I don't see the era of paper ending any time soon. Not for me at least.

David Popely (2012-10-19 11:41:01)

Contacts on Google contacts, and by extension on BlackBerry. Everything else in Filofax. I just can't get round to putting in the spade-work to get my contacts into the Filo, even though it would probably work just as well.

Mainly, I access contacts straight from the phone anyway, so it helps to have them there, the speed-to-access is absolutely first-rate (one reason why I signed on for another two years rather than migrate to iPhone).

Unlikely I'll change any of this in the foreseeable future...

Gillie Smellie (2012-10-19 11:44:46)

Phone contacts - phone/address book (personal)/ House manual (useful numbers etc)

Addresses - address book

Diary - Erin Condren Planner and Quo Vardis Textagenda (when I can't carry EC with me)

Planner - Erin Condren Planner and Uncalendar

Daily notes/to do (daily and rolling) etc - Uncalendar

Journalling/notes on the go - Quo Vardis Textagenda

Writing notes/plans/contacts - FF Red Personal Chameleon

Morning Pages - Moleskine unlined notebook

I really couldn't cope with an iphone app for my diary. By the time I've found the app, clicked the various

"buttons" and typed in the event/time/notes. I could have opened my diary written it in and finished my cup of tea! The only thing I use my phone for is telephone numbers and the number of times it has run out of battery and I can't get at the numbers doesn't bear thinking about.

Paper every time.

janet (2012-10-19 12:02:02)

I use my old Palm LifeDrive software on my PC to keep records of all my passwords, addresses, birthdays, small notes, instructions, directions. I used to use the LifeDrive to back it up but my records are now too big.

A-Z address book for my passwords

my Filo for my appointments and any day to day info used for my job

my mobile for my commonly used numbers.

My old mobile holds backups of my numbers.

My Mac holds all my website logins and passwords on my Mac Keychain.

John (2012-10-19 13:49:40)

I've organically grown my contacts via Google/Android, and it's so seamless at this point (integration of Facebook, LinkedIn, who knows what else) that I don't think I'll ever even go iPhone, much less return to paper-based. I think people in my generation (late 30's) seem to have so many options for connection (multiple phones, multiple e-mail addresses, profile links to web sites like FB, LIn, G+, etc.) that anything less than a service doing it for you on some level makes entry alone a full-time job.

Calendar is a different story. Given that I'm not a titan of high finance, I don't have much of a need for Exchange/Outlook style calendaring. And for me, there's something about handwriting appointments and GTD that makes me remember those tasks more reliably. That, and I don't know if there's anything I find more irritating than the ding-buzz of an electronic reminder.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-19 14:46:12)

Access to contacts on the iPhone is immediate as well David?

Paul B (2012-10-19 15:15:07)

I think the Portland standard size was the usual 7/8. I needed the bigger rings at the time and phoned Filofax in London who said the Grand was the only one they did at that time with oversize (5/4) rings. Although the leather is beautifully soft, it is also remarkably hard wearing. Mine has hardly any wear to show for over 20 years of work and its been to a lot of horrible places and been thrown around a great deal. The last Portland standard I saw on Ebay UK went for about £20, so a real bargain. I wish they had made other colours in the Grand but it only got made in Black. I guess in those days they figured it was a business organiser, hence as Henry Ford said.....and colour you like, as long as its black.

Paul B (2012-10-19 15:17:31)

Here are some photos of the Portland Grand. They don't really do it justice but I'll add a couple of better ones now I'm back from holiday and have my decent camera. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/burjmax/sets/72157630790759334/>

guccee (2012-10-19 15:30:07)

I have one compact Osterley in grey. Didn't like the smell initially - kinda too animal like for me. Then the smell wears off and it's very me now. And the leather was a bit stiff initially and it just feels better and better with use. Now I'm absolutely in love with it. This is the only filo I use but I share calendar with my husband on my iCalendar so we're in synch with each other's schedule.

roguexuk (2012-10-19 19:39:24)

Hi all

This is my first time posting - I've had my Personal Vintage Pink Malden for just over a month and I'm wondering if I've got a ring problem - as you guys are the experts I thought best to ask you first :)

I notice the issue most with my Today ruler - its nice and loose when its on either side of the rings, but if I move

it to the middle, it gets stuck. Especially on the very top ring and actually starts to pull the lowest one apart. Is this something I should get looked into?

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-10-19 20:51:48)

The only thing I keep in my phone are phone numbers - I keep all info in a small address book I stick in the filo

Doris (2012-10-19 20:51:55)

Paul, thanks for the photos. It does look good doesn't it? (: I prefer the card layout of the Cavendish but since I will use it as a stay-at-home filo, it really doesn't matter. I've never had a filo with 5/4 rings! And I have a saved search on ebay going now. Again, thanks!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-19 23:19:29)

Question. Does the monthly calendar come with back to back pages or is each month separate. On Franklin Covey the front of the month is an index page, then you turn the page and have the month on two pages, then a task list on back. Does that make sense? How are FF months laid out?

Steve Morton (2012-10-20 00:14:46)

They are printed back to back by FF...

Steve Morton (2012-10-20 00:16:26)

Hi, and welcome to Philofaxy

The ruler should be a loose fit through out the travel of the rings. It sounds to me like you have a ring alignment problem.

Return it to Filofax if you are in UK, or to your retailer elsewhere.

Steve

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-20 12:18:51)

That's what I thought. Thanks.

roguexuk (2012-10-20 14:07:29)

Thanks Steve, that's what I thought.

I'll have to put my personal pages in my A5 while it's away :)

Anne (2012-10-22 14:50:30)

Hi. I now have the Pennybridge. I had lost a lot of data recently and was so pleased I had my filofax to hand. I use electric and paper for everything. Filofax goes everywhere with me and doesn't need charging or booting up, so much quicker to jot a contact number into but data finally is added to my blackberry which links to computer and iPad thanks to google.

Web Finds - 20 October 2012 (2012-10-20 00:00) - Steve Morton

And here we are again...

1. [1]Personal Vintage Rose Finchley - Planet Millie
2. [2]Midori Traveler's Notebook Odor Update! Getting rid of smells - Imysworld [Useful tip]
3. [3]reference sheets - Paper Lovestory
4. [4]Review: Compact Osterley Orange - Filo-Manie
5. [5]Ready for more? - Lime Tree

6. [6]The Dodo-Pad for My Filofax - Jess's Blog
7. [7]My Filofax Personal Holborn Wine Setup - Behind my Purpley Life
8. [8]Uses for Pocket Filos - Jagged little thoughts
9. [9]So many books so little time... - Nothings Original Anymore
10. [10]Pink Breast Cancer Awareness Filofax - The Storage Studio
11. [11]filofax - "even artichokes have hearts"
12. [12]Die Metropol-Familie - Filomaniac
13. [13]osterley filofax set up: part II! - Paper Lovestory
14. [14]Toss the To Do List & Make a Done List Instead - Homemakers Daily
15. [15]Chameleon has Arrived - Jagged Little Thoughts
16. [16]Custom Inserts - Jagged Little Thoughts
17. [17]Diane Keaton - Jolie.de
18. [18]Time for a small rethink - Paper Pens Ink
19. [19]My Pennybridge - Just an Essex Girl
20. [20]A small update - My Once Upon The Moon
21. [21]All Stars Guest Post: Vanjilla – Baroscapade! - Lime Tree
22. [22]2013 Diary Experiment - The Storage Studio
23. [23]Vintage Green Richmond - Cloudberry Musings
24. [24]Filofax Collection of the Week - Imysworld
25. [25]My mini move - Rapunzel's World
26. [26]the best and worst stationery companies - Paper Lovestory
27. [27]Falsche Schlange? - Filomaniac
28. [28]Sigmund Freud: On under-planning... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
29. [29]Purple Malden: Dents and Complaints - The Life of the Perpetual Student
30. [30]Ooh - something new? - LJ's Blog of Stuff
31. [31]DIY bargains to fit in my Filofax (1) - All Filo
32. [32]2013 Setup Options - Binder Options - LJ's Blog of Stuff

And this weeks videos

IFRAME: [33]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/v6jKqGhIcfo?rel=0>

IFRAME: [34]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/OKpmYp22FWE?rel=0>

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/JGKve57kvr0?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://mslogica.com/?p=7236>
2. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/midori-travelers-notebook-odor-update.html>
3. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/reference-sheets.html>
4. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/10/review-compact-osterley-orange.html>
5. <http://limetreefruits.com/2012/10/16/ready-for-more/>
6. <http://beginningofafilofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/10/the-dodo-pad-for-my-filofax.html>
7. <http://mypurpleylelife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-filofax-personal-holborn-wine-setup.html>
8. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/uses-for-pocket-filos.html>
9. <http://nothingsoriginalanymore.blogspot.fr/2012/10/so-many-books-so-little-time.html>
10. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/pink-breast-cancer-awareness-filofax.html>
11. <http://skypennant.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax.html>
12. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/die-metropol-familie.html>
13. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/osterley-filofax-set-up-part-ii.html>
14. <http://homemakersdaily.com/toss-the-to-do-list-make-a-done-list-instead/>
15. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/chameleon-has-arrived.html>
16. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/custom-inserts.html>
17. <http://www.jolie.de/bildergalerien/anziehen-ausziehen-nr-14-2089558.html>
18. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/10/time-for-small-rethink.html>
19. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-pennybridge.html>
20. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/10/hi-everyone.html>
21. <http://limetreefruits.com/2012/10/18/all-stars-guest-post-vanjilla-baroscapade/>
22. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/2013-diary-experiment.html>
23. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/vintage-green-richmond.html>
24. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-collection-of-week.html>
25. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-mini-move.html>
26. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/the-best-and-worst-stationery-companies.html>
27. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/falsche-schlange.html>
28. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/sigmund-freud-on-under-planning.html>
29. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/10/purple-malden-dents-and-complaints.html>
30. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/10/ooh-something-new.html>
31. <http://tracyoy.wordpress.com/2012/10/19/diy-bargains-to-fit-in-my-filofax-1/>
32. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/10/2013-setup-options-binder-options.html>
33. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/v6jKqGhIcfo?rel=0>
34. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/OKpmYp22FWE?rel=0>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/JGKve57kvr0?rel=0>

LJ (2012-10-20 00:36:35)

Yay for Saturday mornings :o) Thank you

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-20 16:40:45)

Yay, I agree best thing about Saturday....

Embracing (Filofax) change - part 2 (2012-10-21 00:00) - Anita Lim

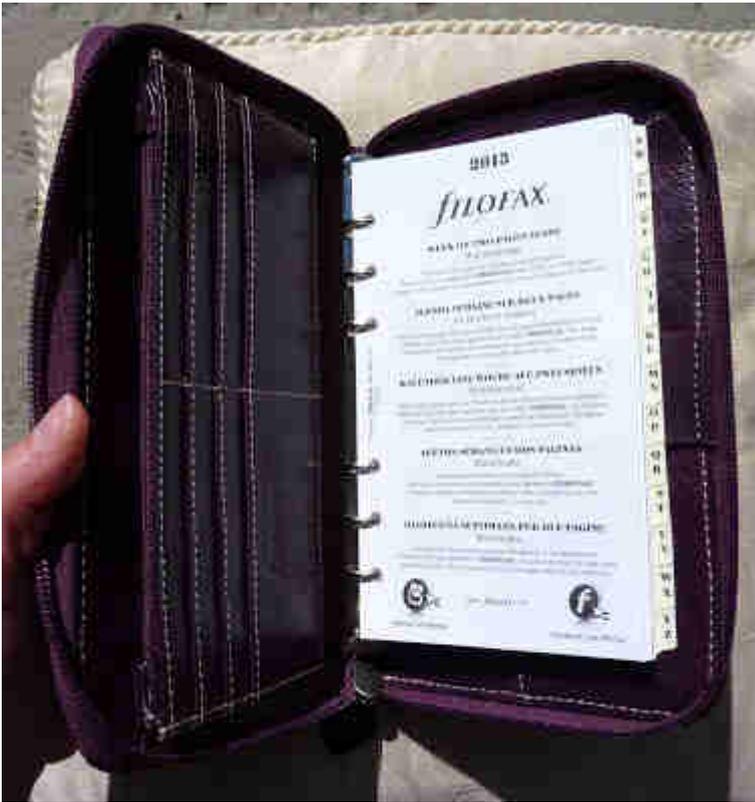
With a general move to downsizing and reducing the clutter in my life, I really enjoyed reading Steve's review of the [1]Malden compact zipped and purchased one. My plan was to use it as my sole filo and wallet combined, but I sold it as I realised that the combination of the smaller rings and zip meant it all felt a bit constricted to me.



[2]



[3]

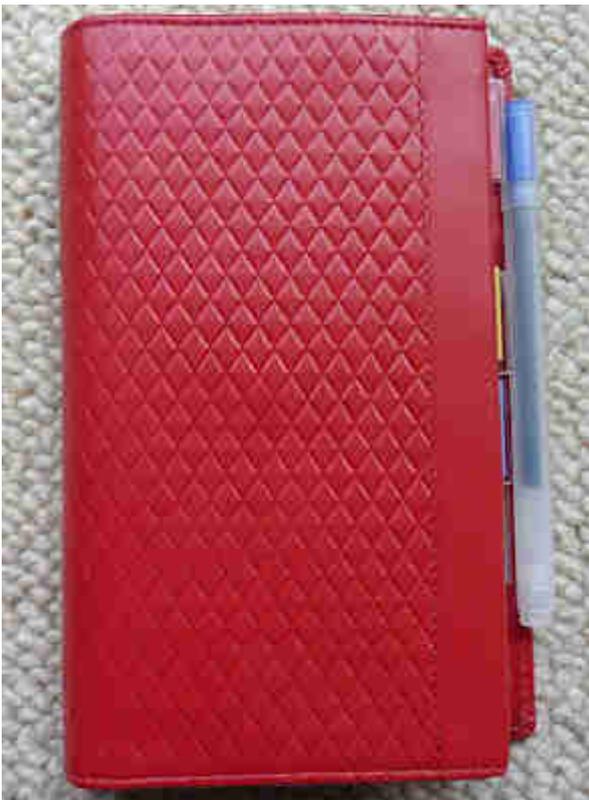


[4]

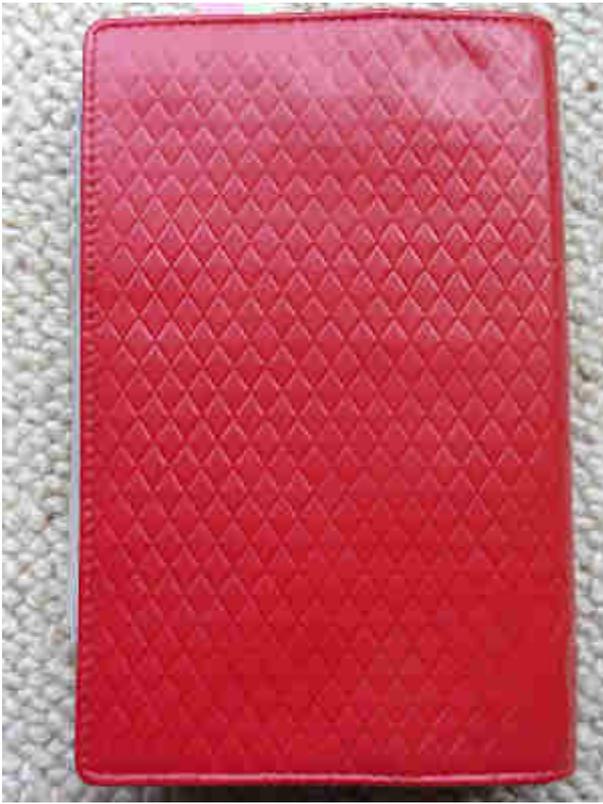
As mentioned in [5]part one of this post, I managed to win two beautiful slimlines on eBay and I thought I'd share some more photos of them with you.

The first contender is the scarlet Adelphi.

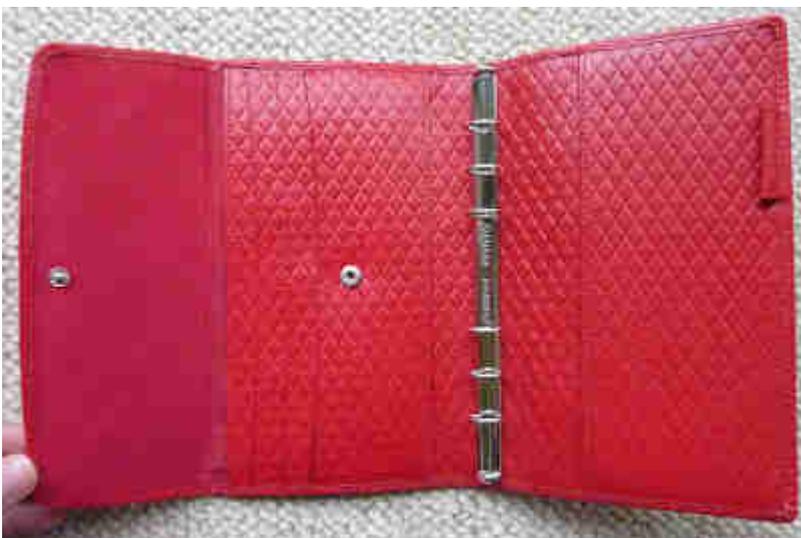
I know that some people aren't a fan of the slimline Adelphi due to the front popped pocket adding extra bulk, but I quite like that as it's easy to use it as a wallet. As soon as I took it out of the packaging I loved it. The colour is a stunning vivid scarlet, the leather is quite soft and I like the diamond pattern as it adds texture and interest. I don't think the photos do it justice really.



[6]



[7]



[8]



[9]

And then we have the elegant ruby Deco.

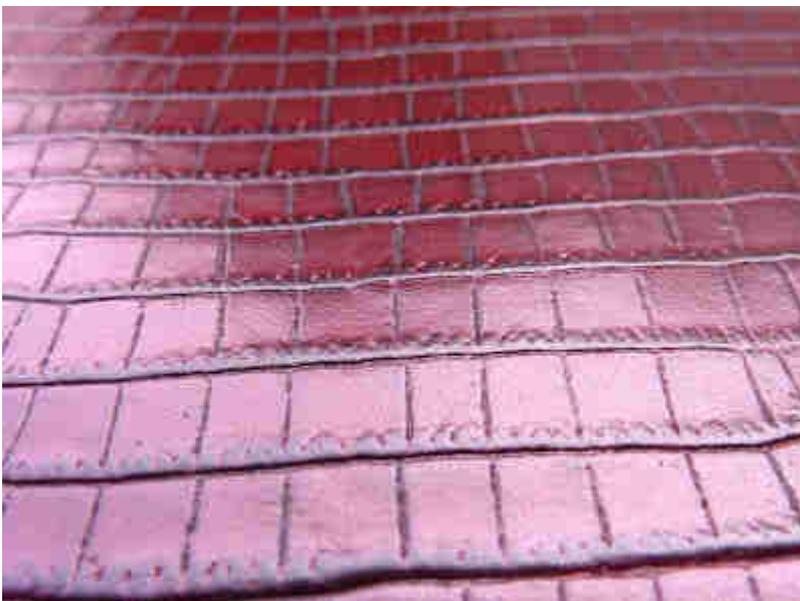
To be honest, I assumed that I would prefer this one but I just didn't bond with it like I did with the Adelphi. It's strange as the Deco is stunning with its mini crocodile print leather and cream suede interior, and the ruby colour is a lovely deep red.



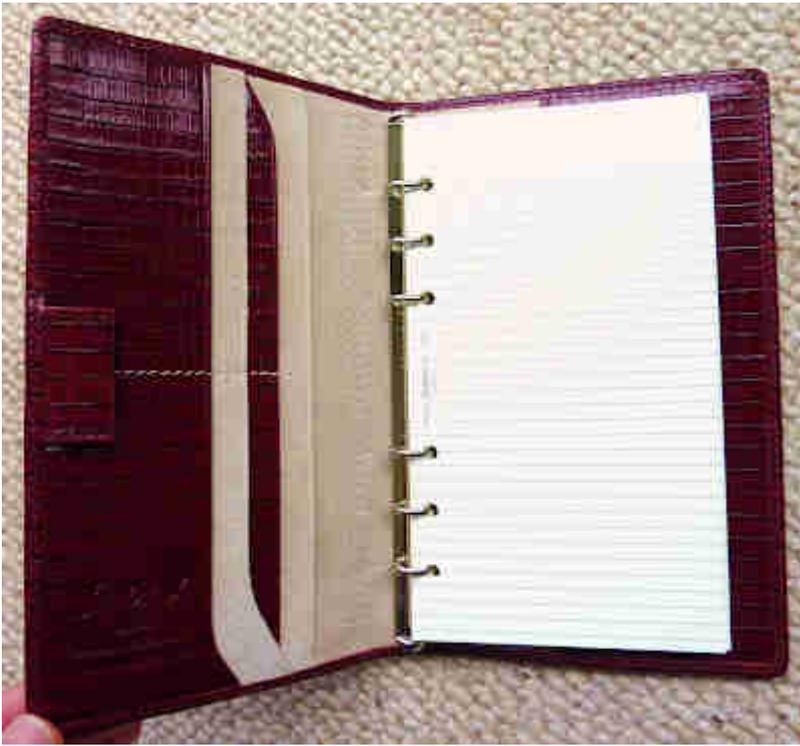
[10]



[11]



[12]



[13]



[14]

When I initially wrote this, I was asking for help in choosing between these two slimlines but the Deco has already been sold! In the end, I went with my gut feeling as I couldn't wait to use the Adelphi and kept picking it up. In comparison, I occasionally took the Deco out of its box, admired and sniffed it (!) and then put it back in the cupboard. I know that from the comments the overwhelming majority chose the Deco, but somehow the darker red leather felt more serious, a bit too posh and just not me. I did adore my purple Malden, but I was beginning to find the colour a bit on the dark side for every day use, so maybe I was ready for a cheery scarlet filo instead.

So, the Adelphi is now my main filo, with [15]my A5 as back up for more space and projects. I will write some posts about my slimline set up once I've settled in a little more.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/filofax-malden-compact-zipped-organiser.html>

2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-HQn2hmpsh2Y/UG75yDaKquI/AAAAAAAAAzo/T7KvngLAMvY/s1600/P1020641.JPG>

3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-AtcBm-b91D4/UH7afyweo_I/AAAAAAAAA4g/6BddKGWik8w/s1600/P1020642.JPG

4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-oPItZ_NV4vQ/UH7ai1T7IKI/AAAAAAAAA4o/iUPk70Q9eHY/s1600/P1020644.JPG
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/embracing-filofax-change-part-1.html>
6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-D8V_1oZgMvA/UG76xRDI3HI/AAAAAAAAAz0/EIEbGbCvZGE/s1600/P1030150.JPG
7. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-LD1Xgt6Pw0k/UG760Vsf19I/AAAAAAAAAz8/M5hH6oGUpjU/s1600/P1030151.JPG>
8. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-YYrLgPwy1U/UH7hnPUUyLI/AAAAAAAAA5I/5xEiVULc-DY/s1600/P1030190.JPG>
9. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-jP1Q5X5dEq8/UG763L0xMcI/AAAAAAAAA0E/G4NDPXZu5cc/s1600/P1030152.JPG>
10. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-hWJYKIqSk64/UG77YnxqjFI/AAAAAAAAA0U/dH_vkghJkas/s1600/P1030155.JPG
11. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-3gewK_B6-uY/UG77bp3MrAI/AAAAAAAAA0c/rIajJgf-iL0/s1600/P1030156.JPG
12. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-Y3VkgKGWE4Y/UG77eKahcRI/AAAAAAAAA0k/-wTIN86eWeg/s1600/P1030157.JPG>
13. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-kMfNstK9_VM/UG77hBvN0sI/AAAAAAAAA0s/aLkxhn6y04/s1600/P1030160.JPG
14. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-yzQ0bDv3c4w/UG77nwYy1QI/AAAAAAAAA00/OR-Yv6Xh_qo/s1600/P1030161.JPG
15. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/a5-revisited.html>

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-21 03:11:36)

Strangely, I knew you would go for the Adelphi in scarlet, now looking inside both I can see why you chose it over the Deco. Yes, the popper may add bulk but adds a touch of security, especially as it has no outer closure...

Alison Reeves (2012-10-21 05:56:02)

That's what I love about FFs - there is such a wide choice and something for everyone. I do think this is a 'tactile' hobby and we often find ourselves loving something in the flesh that on paper we wouldn't have gone for. Shame there are not more shops showing a full display.

Anna (2012-10-21 09:59:11)

After reading Steve's review, I looked all over for a Compact Malden zipped but I just can't seem to find one. Were they only a short-lived phenomenon? Shame, as it looks perfect for me.

Steve Morton (2012-10-21 10:34:10)

They will be available again officially in UK next year. But if you want one now... then look here:

<http://www.filofax.de/store/organiserdetails.asp?sizeId=13 &rangeId=150 &dsId=13>

or

<http://www.filofax.fr/store/organiserdetails.asp?sizeId=13 &rangeId=150 &dsId=13>

Steve

Alison (2012-10-21 11:10:03)

That's good to know, i'm considering either this in Ochre or a Compact Osterley in Orange - decisions decisions, do you have an idea when next year Steve? Thanks :-)

Anna (2012-10-21 11:19:15)

Steve - thank-you so much for your reply! I'm a longtime filo-fan (first one was a personal Classic black circa 1987) and I'm a new reader to this site - been catching up for rather too many hours :-)

BTW, just wanted to say thank you for all your efforts to get the company to revert to its original high standard of well-crafted, simple, soothing, beautiful and useful products and halt this awful trend towards cheap, harsh and blingy products that I, personally, wouldn't be seen dead with.

Anna (2012-10-21 11:45:28)

Oh-oh. Just gone and ordered the Malden Compact (ochre) from the French site. Sunday afternoon and raining but I'm very excited! Once again, thanks for info.

Steve Morton (2012-10-21 11:48:00)

To Do list with Enabling entry ticked off for this week :-)

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-21 11:49:21)

And welcome to Philofaxy. Yes lots to read or search through if you have only just found us.

Hope you enjoy many a happy hour reading through the previous posts.

Regards

Steve

Anna (2012-10-21 12:58:21)

<:-))

crofter (2012-10-21 20:47:50)

Cheap, harsh, and BLINGY. What an excellent choice of adjectives to describe what sadly seems to portray the current selection available from this once great brand!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-10-23 08:16:36)

I adore my Damson Adelphi Anita. I've used it since I got it in June and haven't been tempted to move into a different binder at all since then. I can fit everything I need in it, and it doesn't take up too much space in my handbag. Long live Slimlines!

Reader Under The Spotlight - Julie (2012-10-22 00:00) - Steve Morton

This week I would like to introduce you to Julie



[1]

Hi, I'm Julie, I'm 32 and I live in Northamptonshire with my husband and work as a sub-editor for newspapers across Bedfordshire.

I don't blog very much but I am on Twitter and you can follow me [2]@juleslea

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

I was 18, at college and bought a WHSmith branded organiser. It had a tartan pattern and I remember it being very purple! My first purchase from the Filofax range was a personal Ranger.

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

I've tried using a diary in the past but there's just something about the Filofax that I love. I tried to use a diary at the start of this year and by the second week of January I was back with my Filofax!

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

My personal red Finsbury. I love it! I even have the Trifold folder to match!

4. *How many Filofax organisers do you own?*

Seven. Some I haven't used for ages but won't part with in case I want to revisit them in the future.

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

Everything! It's not an exaggeration to say it organises my life. I have a personal diary in there as well as a work one. I don't like going out without it. Birthdays, addresses, maps, website lists, reading lists – they're all in there. I love being able to have everything I need in one place.

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

This is an easy question – the fact that you can personalise it to what you want and can easily change it around to suit what you need.

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

I'd go for the Malden leather in a bright colour with the Adelphi-style pockets at the front.

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

It's normally in my handbag. I have it on my desk at work and by my side at home.

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

I do like the look of the plum Osterley. I'm hoping I've been good this year and Father Christmas will bring it for me. If not, I might ask for money for my birthday and buy it. Would be the best gift ever!

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

I have a personal Malden in Vintage Pink but bought that in the sale when it was about £53. I think that's the most so far... until I get an Osterley!

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

I think by nature all humans are inquisitive and I love reading how people use their Filofax and make it their own. It's so good to have a site where people can share ideas on a common theme.

I love the Web Finds midweek and on a Saturday morning. I try to read them all!

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

There isn't anything I don't like. I genuinely think it's a great site.

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

Rita Ora's album, Ora. Also downloaded Now 82 on the same day! *[They still do them!??]*

Thank you Julie for agreeing to be our Reader Under The Spotlight. If you would like to to be a future 'Reader Under The Spotlight' please get in touch with us at philofaxy [at] gmail [dot] com

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-4rrPbkQSp8s/UIIzrJ74vpI/AAAAAAAAANtk/Dx8qwFnFnJk/s1600/photo.JPG>

2. <https://twitter.com/juleslea/>

Gerard (2012-10-23 14:44:53)

Hi Julie,

And thanks for your interesting post.

Oooh: two diaries, really? This is something I'm struggling with - whether to set up separate work and personal filos. How have you got things set up? If you'll indulge my nosiness :)

Julie Lea (2012-10-28 14:04:25)

Hi Gerard,

Thanks for your comment :)

I have six months of a week on one page for my personal diary and six months of a week on two pages for my work diary.

At the front of my Filofax I also have a month on two pages with tabs so I can see important dates at a glance.

After my diaries, I've got lots of other tabs for things like birthdays and anniversaries, websites, books to read, to do lists, addresses and phone numbers.

I hope you find your perfect set up :)



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have. So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypH0Yfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

Helen Conway (2012-10-23 02:52:14)

Compact v personal..my latest debate for the 2013 planner as I fancy a new Osterley but cannot decide which to buy. (Both?!). I want to carry a monthly tabbed, a years week on one page with notes, about six sheets of paper for finances and at least a week's worth of the day on two pages. Can I do that in a compact? I know that if I measure what I want to put in in theory it needs to be less that 1.5 cm. but I also have a pocket with 15mm rings I use as a purse and when I measure the contents of that it comes to 2cm! Can a compact owner please put as much paper as comfortably turns in theirs and let me know what that measures? Thanks.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-23 03:52:10)

Staples UK have some discounts on binders online - also when I went to my local Staples they had some pocket and mini binders half price that are not reduced online. (For example Aston!). I didn't buy anything as I don't really need anything - especially that size - but might be worth popping in if you are passing.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-23 04:01:11)

Hi Helen! Did you get your new blog up and running? How is the quilting going?

Jennifer Bunagan Reyes (2012-10-23 04:11:52)

I am struggling with this as well. Today I was able to compare in person the compact and personal Osterleys. I don't think you can keep a years worth of stuff in it. Maybe half a year. As of now, I am using a Personal Holborn. Only carrying 3 months of inserts, and its already pretty stuffed up. I use it as a wallet as well. I think it's bc I carry lots of cards. Credit cards, licenses, insurance cards fr my family.

Jennifer Bunagan Reyes (2012-10-23 04:13:20)

I am struggling with this as well. Today I was able to compare in person the compact and personal Osterleys. I don't think you can keep a years worth of stuff in it. Maybe half a year. As of now, I am using a Personal Holborn. Only carrying 3 months of inserts, and its already pretty stuffed up. I use it as a wallet as well. I think it's bc I carry lots of cards. Credit cards, licenses, insurance cards fr my family.

natalie (2012-10-23 04:21:53)

I have been designing my own FF pages, but I struggle a bit with getting things centred because of the ring gutter. Does anyone know what the margins should be for A5 inserts?

I know that I could work this out myself... but I could waste an awful lot of paper trying to get it right!

Helen Conway (2012-10-23 04:29:34)

I use 0.6 cm for all margins except 1.2 cm for the ring edge. I tend to use text boxes a lot and find that if I am printing on A4 and then cutting down it helps to set the page up as landscape with two columns with a line between them. Then size the view on screen to the actual size of an A4 paper (by the technical method of holding it up to see!). that way you can check before printing if everything fits.

Helen Conway (2012-10-23 04:36:17)

To answer Alison's question above about my new blog... she refers to a comment I made about starting one in response to your kind comments on my Guest posts here when people said they would like more of my writing. The answer is YES (almost)!

The new site is called Plan • Create • Succeed and it will launch on 1st November. Steve has kindly agreed to host me as guest again on that day so I can show you how indispensable my purple Malden was in helping me set it all up.

the new site will have regular features on organisation and planning, self development, creating art and food, journalling and other such goodies. Also a forum place for you to come and talk about it all much like this one. I am excited about it so I hope you will all come and visit and hang out!

natalie (2012-10-23 04:41:00)

Thank you. I have one design which I use every day and it's a folded one so I trim a bit off the unpunched side and then fold so that there is a margin (not) over the holes. If I just fold it in half it would be wider than the standard pages.

I want to print some ordinary A5 ones so they will be mirrored and I just need to work out how to print upside down to get something on both sides now.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-23 05:01:55)

I'm hitting planner fail AGAIN!! For the past few weeks I've been using a WO1P plus notes, with DPP in between. I only had a week's worth of DPP in, and instead used the WO1P for future planning. I hit planner fail because I don't need a whole DPP at the moment- I don't need to plan that much, I don't have many appointments, and instead of forward planning for the day, I just find myself filling in what I have already done into the time slots. I need time slots because my brain thinks very linearly- it doesn't work when the page is a mess and disorganised! So I tried different personal sized formats last night- WO2P columns with appointments times that I made myself, Day Timer WO2P... but none of them worked. Ideally, I want appointment slots with half hour intervals, and space for to-dos, or at the very least, just space to separate appointments and to-dos and other stuff. Any ideas? Thanks!

natalie (2012-10-23 05:07:00)

Would it be possible to make the list of Filofax bloggers work in "real time" please?

It's a huge list there is a widget in Blogger "Layout" which creates a list and order them according to when they were updated, in chronological order.

So, for example it will say

Steve's FF blog, updated 38 minutes ago

The super duper FF blog, updated 9 hours ago

Fred's FF blog, updated 11 months ago

It would make it really easy to see all the recent posts and help me to keep track of what I have read already. If I visited on Saturday I know that since today is Tuesday, I only need to look at the top x posts which have been written in the last four days.

Thank you.

natalie (2012-10-23 05:12:47)

headdesk*

How many typos did I have in that comment?

Normal service will be resumed after a nice cup of tea.

Steve Morton (2012-10-23 05:25:01)

Hi Natalie

Nice idea... but.. the list of blogs that are monitored for Web Finds which comes out on Tuesday and Saturday is now over a 100 different blogs, and not all of the blog post are about Filofax. Some are only occasional Filofax bloggers.

Webfinds I think will fit your need better. The other problem with the widget you mention is that it will only show the most recent post. Some bloggers might publish 2 or 3 posts in a 3-4 day period so there would be the possibility of missing posts.

Webfinds are arranged in chronological order, I add to the list as the posts appear on my monitoring system.

Regards

Steve

Helen Conway (2012-10-23 05:39:21)

I found the French site has different diary inserts and the day on two pages has all that stuff but of course might be too much space for your needs. Have a look there and also on the swedish site which has different ones too and see if anything helps. Personally I need a magically expanding and contracting insert as no day seems to require the same thing!

Cruz Johnson (2012-10-23 05:46:39)

Hi there, everyone! This is my first post, as I'm a recent convert to Filofax (less than two weeks). I've got a black-and-orange Personal Apex, which I love.

I have a question: Does anyone know of a retailer that offers reasonably-priced postage to New Zealand? I'm trying to get a Personal-sized calculator and Rapseco Diary Punch 66P, but the shipping costs on Amazon.co.uk seemed quite high. Can anyone recommend a way to buy my Filo goodies without breaking the bank?

Alison Reeves (2012-10-23 06:02:27)

Excellent news Helen - I can't wait!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-23 06:02:55)

Last week I sent off my faulty Finchley to Filofax, I put a note in it to say I wanted to exchange it for a Holborn personal in Wine, and today I got a letter saying they will send me a Wine Holborn, and it should be with me within 5 to 7 days!!! :D :D So happy!!!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-23 06:08:57)

Hi Cruz and welcome! I often have this issue when I see things in the US as the postage to the UK is prohibitive. Perhaps you need to come over for a holiday with an empty suitcase or arrange a holiday swap with someone from the UK (only joking!). I suppose this is an issue with the internet as it allows us to see things globally which we ordinarily would not think of.

Helen Conway (2012-10-23 06:35:41)

and you will be when you get it too. I have just received the A5 wine Holborn and it feels gorgeous. Incidentally Pen and Paper in Cardiff on their online shop had a very good price.

Lady_Filo (2012-10-23 07:24:41)

You can fit your sheets, as needed, in a compact. I've been doing that myself with my regency compact as well. I use; day on 2 pages (only 3-4 weeks), week on 2 pages (3 months) tabbed month on 2 pages (6 months) and month on 2 pages overview (6 months). Also finance sheets, notes and lists. However, I do archive a lot and I am now at the point of struggle I would actually like to carry more with me in my compact, but it doesn't fit.. So, I am thinking of getting a Personal Regency, since I love Reggie so much.. :0 ..

Helen Conway (2012-10-23 07:39:16)

Thanks Lady-Filo. It occurred to me after I posted that I could also ask the good people at City Organiser who confirmed also I could fit my desired stuff in a compact 'comfortably'. In the world of self deception this is pleasing

as it means I am not buying MORE organisers (I already use personal Astons and a vast nnumber of A5s)I am buying DIFFERENT which is much more acceptable:) So next issue: which colour Osterley to choose?! although, now you mention Regency...!

industrious housewife (2012-10-23 08:00:23)

Hi, question - who has used a Dodpad insert? Particularly personal sized? How did you find it?

I would especially like to hear from anyone who has used one as their *main* diary.

2013 is fast approaching and I have yet to decide on a diary layout!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-23 08:58:36)

Has anyone used the week on one page in cotton cream?

I'd really like the week on one page with notes, but they don't do it in this colour. I thought I would get the week on one page and insert cream note pages in between.

I'm concerned that the 5 language option will leave little room for writing - has anyone got any experience of this?

Alondra Karwowski (2012-10-23 09:30:28)

The Holborn is the best Filofax ever! You will not be disappointed! (at least I'm not). Beautiful leather, beautiful pockets :)

Monique Carrillo (2012-10-23 10:28:34)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Monique Carrillo (2012-10-23 10:30:55)

Helen-I have the Osterley in grey in A5, Personal, and compact. I just got the Osterley in pocket in plum yesterday. They are all so beautiful. The grey (to me) has blues and purples in it while the plum is such a deep reddish purple. Sorry that doesn't help :) They are all so beautiful.

MySummerTouch (2012-10-23 10:43:04)

Is here anybody from UK who could help me to buy my first malden filofax and inserts from UK ebay? They ship only to UK, anf I'm not there? Please, answer me to mysummertouch at hotmail dot com or here thank you

Alondra Karwowski (2012-10-23 10:52:18)

Does anyone have those Filofax stickers they would like to 'Donate' to me? I want to try them out.. but so many aren't big fans of them that I don't really want to take the risk. If you are not using yours but you have them laying around somewhere, I'd be happy to take them off your hands :) email me at alondrasilva10 [at] yahoo [dot] com.

Steve Morton (2012-10-23 12:36:14)

Hi

There are a couple of videos on You Tube worth looking at:

<http://youtu.be/CCis59zkFJc>

and

<http://youtu.be/tMf11pYPbqs>

Both feature the 2013 format.

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-23 12:38:00)

That was one of the reasons why Ray and I designed our own version of the week per page with just a single language. I'm going to print this version on Filofax Personal Size blank cotton cream paper for next year.

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-10-23 13:06:42)

I know Steve - but I got in such a mess when I tried to print it out using the A4 version. Did you get the FF blank cotton cream paper on the FF site? I haven't seen it before. That might work better.

J (2012-10-23 14:20:31)

Natalie, have you ever used Google Reader? It will automatically show all of the "new" posts since last time you logged in, so you know exactly who has posted and can go directly to them. Of course, this only works for blogs you have subscribed to...

industrious housewife (2012-10-23 14:58:10)

Cheers Steve, food for thought, saw a few other Dodopad reviews too. Very interesting. Still can't decide for sure. :-D

industrious housewife (2012-10-23 15:01:47)

Orange! Then take lots of photos for me to drool over. :-D

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-23 15:24:00)

I use Google Reader, too, and it works great!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-23 15:25:28)

I'm getting ready to buy a new personal FF. I have a blue Finsbury in my cart but I'm torn. What's your favorite personal and why?

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-23 16:04:43)

Has anyone ever purchased the storage binder? <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=513>

It doesn't look like it holds very many pages. I'm using the day on two pages so I have quite a few pages to put in there. Also wondered if it's a 3-ring or some other type of binding.

JasJan (2012-10-23 16:47:17)

Holborn - pockets and the leather is amazing.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-23 16:51:08)

I've been looking at that one but I wish it came in brighter colors.

Laura (2012-10-23 17:23:30)

I apologize in advance if this has been asked recently, but can anyone recommend personal size commercially available inserts? I have used Filofax and Franklin Covey and while I really like the layout (and feels very familiar to me) of the FC, I don't like how the pages stick out and cutting and repunching seems almost wasteful. I haven't tried Dayrunner or Daytimer. I'm looking for a monthly on 2 page (with tab) as well as a day per page (or day per two pages). Has anyone used a brand that they like? I am in the US, so international shipping can be an issue. Thanks for any replies.

Cheryl (2012-10-23 17:37:01)

Yesterday I received my 2013 WOAP with Notes, decided I didn't like it so it's going back. The sections for the days of the week are just too small for the purpose I am intending it for. I know this has been said before but I just don't get why they can't do the A5 planners on cotton cream. You can totally see the other side of the diary through the thin sheets of white paper and its driving me crazy. Too distracting. Think I'm going back to WO2P though. You know what they say, if it ain't broke don't fix it. So I got free shipping for nothing but in the long run the other diary should suit me better.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-23 18:09:50)

Dayrunner and Daytimer are both good. Daytimer is probably better, though, and there's more variety. Have you looked on their website? A lot of their stuff is also available at most office supply stores.

Laura (2012-10-23 19:51:45)

I have looked at Daytimer. Some items are available in our local office supply store, but the selection is quite small for the personal sized planners. Any other suppliers like Paper Chase in the UK? I feel somewhat limited in that it seems like the US focuses on digital planning more than other parts of the world.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-23 21:14:00)

I hadn't thought about it, Laura, but you might be right about the US focusing more on digital planning. Even Franklin Covey has really cut back on their paper planning inventory in favor of totes, other organizing supplies and training programs.

austinlinda (2012-10-24 05:39:14)

I've been using Dodopad-and it works well for me! When I first began using it in my Personal Finchley, in early 2012, I used it as a 'side' diary to a week on 2 Pages. After buying the 2013 from the site in the UK-I have decided to use it all year 'round in my compact Luxe. It is a great fit, and it allows me to plan, in advance, as well as schedule for the week ahead.

It was worth the postage from the UK, to here in the states-I paid more for shipping than for the pad itself! Try it-especially in a compact organizer.

austinlinda (2012-10-24 05:52:22)

The best alternatives aren't always available online. One way to find them is a look through a pen store's inventory - older ones are more likely to be found there

David Popely (2012-10-24 06:17:44)

I also use Google Reader.....it's perfect for my needs, and sounds as if it would meet yours too.

David Popely (2012-10-24 06:26:20)

Tried emailing that address, but your mail bounced. Email me davidpopely (at) gmail (dot) com

Butanben (2012-10-24 08:43:42)

Does anyone use their scanner to make stuff for their Filofax?I have just used it to scan a pretty design of notepaper, so that I can print it off to exactly A5 size for my jottings section... and was just curious if other folks do similar stuff.

Jen (2012-10-24 15:10:08)

Google Reader - It's the bomb!

Jen (2012-10-24 15:13:30)

I have the blue Finsbury and I was pretty happy with it. Then I saw the Kingfisher blue Metropol. Total love at first sight. I think it is the texture more than the color, although the Metropol is a brighter blue.

Jen (2012-10-24 15:14:51)

It holds very little. Mine quickly went away. If I remember correctly, it holds about half of what my actual Filo held.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-24 19:28:23)

That's what I wanted to know. I didn't think it looked like it was worth buying. Thanks for responding.
Patty

baggirl (2012-10-25 11:08:32)

me too! I follow this with google reader.

kanalt (2012-10-26 07:31:35)

I'm a little late to the game here, but I hope this helps. Since switching to the compact, I have not gone back to the personal for carrying items with me. I do keep a personal at home that contains all of the information I want in one place but that I don't need with me when I walk out the door (address book, home projects, financial information, etc.). That leaves me with only what I do need while out and about. In my compact I have: 6 subject tabs with 2-4 sheets behind each, a years worth of monthly pages, 3 months worth of daily pages. It helps to rotate weeks out, so when a new month arrives, I remove the month that just passed and add whatever month makes up the 3 months worth of inserts.

As for binder: I own the regency in black and brown and I love them dearly. However, once I got the osterley in plum, I never moved out. Something about that binder I just absolutely *love*. I did switch to the brown regency for the fall, was in it for only a couple of days before I was back into the osterley. I had been eyeing for many weeks before purchasing it, but I didn't think I love it as much as I do. I still love the regency as well and maybe I'll move back into at some point. But for now, osterley is where it's at. I only have the plum, so I can't speak for the other colors, but I adore the color. I don't like bright or flashy colors for my planners, but this is just enough color without it being too much for me. The purple is so deep and rich, it's one of the reasons I like the binder so much!

kanalt (2012-10-26 07:34:55)

I have some I could send to you, as I haven't used them in over a year. I will email you later today if that's okay...

kanalt (2012-10-26 07:38:46)

I have used my scanner for items I want to keep in my planner. For example, I'm currently going to physical therapy for an issue with my knees. I have at-home exercises I must do, and what I was given is on (US) standard letter size paper. I scanned that to my computer as an image and cropped it into sections, then added it to my personal template I have for just such an occasion. Once it's in the template, I print it out, punch it, and add it to whatever binder it falls under (in this case, my happiness binder, which includes an exercise section).

PaperAddict (2012-10-28 02:10:54)

Hey Cruz. Fellow Kiwi here. I find that you really can't go past Pens and Leather for buying your Filofax goodies. But I also check out Fishpond.co.nz, amazon.com, amazon.co.uk, here at Philofaxy and even Ebay. Sometimes people also put their items up for sale on the Filofax for Philofaxy Fans on Facebook.

Web Finds - 23 October 2012 (2012-10-23 12:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax Blog Posts

1. [1]How to organize your time when working from home - Christina's Adventures
2. [2]Print your own dot grid pages for the A4 and A5 Filofax - My Life All in One Place
3. [3]custom undated filofax monthly plan inserts - Paper Lovestory
4. [4]Press Review 1 : Clairefontaine paper - Honey and Filofaxes
5. [5]eBay Errors! - Within Dreams We Live
6. [6]My Right Hand Man - Seventh House On The Left
7. [7]Filofax A5 Chameleon in Red - Hazel's Blog
8. [8]Filofax A5 Chameleon in Red – moved in - Hazel's Blog
9. [9]Productivity Tools - David Seah

10. [10]Temperley for Filofax - Live. Love. Learn. Write
11. [11]Creating Lists With My Filofax - Glossette
12. [12]Re-homing my Franklin Covey family - Cloudberry Musings
13. [13]filofax week #27 - Paper Lovestory
14. [14]Linktipp (11): Die Filofax Story - Filomaniac
15. [15]Filofax Meet-up in München - Herbst 2012 - Chaotic Perfectionist
16. [16]When is it Time to Stop? - LJ's Blog of Stuff
17. [17]Arguments against the Filofax #1: Efficiency and maintenance - Productive Living
18. [18]All Stars Guest Post: Paperlovestory - My Filofax - Vanjilla
19. [19]My Filofax Week #3 - Hello Emma
20. [20]Journaling - Thoughts & Exploration
21. [21]Filofax College - Week 4 - Tracking your Spending - Imysworld
22. [22]osterley filofax set up: part III! - Paper Lovestory
23. [23]Filofax spotted! - The Wonderful World of Alice
24. [24]Week 41 and 42 in my Filofax - The Wonderful World of Alice
25. [25]Das erste deutsche Filofax Meet up in München - Filomaniac
26. [26]2013 Setup Options - Diary Layout - LJ's Blog of Stuff
27. [27]Slimming down my Regency Compact - My Filo World
28. [28]Planning my life with a burnout - Delighted
29. [29]My Filofax Week #4 - Glossette
30. [30]Testing a New Diary Layout - Filofax - jagged little thoughts
31. [31]New Inserts: How Am I Getting On? - jagged little thoughts
32. [32]Not another Filofax; meet my Succes Standard - My Filo World
33. [33]Filofax Week #42 - Behind my Purpley Life
34. [34]Using Washi Tape in My Filofax - Whimsicality
35. [35]Uses for Vertical Monthly Inserts: Work Schedule - Planning with Printed Portal
36. [36]Uses for Vertical Monthly Inserts: Deals and Voucher Tracker - Planning with Printed Portal

And the latest videos

IFRAME: [37]http://www.youtube.com/embed/nxG6pam_HiQ?rel=0

IFRAME: [38]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Yt5sg6QIZAI?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://christinasadventures.com/2012/10/how-to-organize-your-time-when-working-from-home.html>
2. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/print-your-own-dot-grid-pages-for-a4.html>
3. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/custom-undated-filofax-monthly-plan.html>
4. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.fr/2012/10/press-review-1-clairefontaine-paper.html>
5. <http://withindreamswelive.blogspot.fr/2012/10/ebay-errors.html>
6. <http://7thhouseontheleft.com/2012/03/personal-planner-notebook/>
7. <http://www.hazelsblog.co.uk/2012/10/18/filofax-a5-chameleon-in-red/>
8. <http://www.hazelsblog.co.uk/2012/10/20/filofax-a5-chameleon-in-red-moved-in/>
9. <http://davidseah.com/productivity-tools/>
10. <http://livelovelearnwrite.com/2012/10/18/temperley-for-filofax/>
11. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/10/20/creating-lists-with-my-filofax/>
12. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/re-homing-my-franklin-covey-family.html>
13. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/filofax-week-27.html>
14. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/linktipp-11-die-filofax-story.html>
15. <http://elfenfish.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-meet-up-in-munchen-herbst-2012.html>
16. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/10/when-is-it-time-to-stop.html>
17. <http://productiveliving.blogspot.fr/2012/10/arguments-against-filofax-1-efficiency.html>
18. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/10/all-stars-guest-post-paperlovestory-my.html>
19. <http://www.helloemma.com/2012/10/my-filofax-week-3.html>
20. <http://www.thoughtsandexploration.com/2012/10/journaling.html>
21. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-college-week-4-tracking-your.html>
22. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/osterley-filofax-set-up-part-iii.html>
23. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-spotted.html>
24. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/10/week-41-and-42-in-my-filofax.html>
25. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/das-erste-deutsche-filofax-meet-up-in.html>
26. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/10/2013-setup-options-diary-layout.html>
27. <http://myfiloworld.com/index.php/slimming-down-my-regency-compact/>
28. <http://delighted.blogspot.fr/2012/10/planning-my-life-with-burnout.html>
29. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/10/22/my-filofax-week-4/>
30. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/testing-new-diary-layout-filofax.html>
31. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/new-inserts-how-am-i-getting-on.html>
32. <http://myfiloworld.com/index.php/not-another-filofax-meet-my-succes/>
33. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-week-42.html>
34. <http://scottishwhimsicality.blogspot.fr/2012/10/using-washi-tape-in-my-filofax.html>
35. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/10/07/uses-for-vertical-monthly-inserts-work-schedule/>
36. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/10/09/uses-for-vertical-monthly-inserts-deals-and-voucher-tracker/>
37. http://www.youtube.com/embed/nxG6pam_HiQ?rel=0
38. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Yt5sg6QIZAI?rel=0>

Mony (2012-10-23 13:03:28)

hai dimenticato me :)

<http://mammastressataxd.blogspot.it/>

Steve Morton (2012-10-23 13:23:20)

Hi

No non ci siamo, ma è necessario scrivere più su Filofax e meno di cancelleria. Mi dispiace per Google Translate
Steve

Paul B (2012-10-23 14:30:56)

Brilliant Steve! And so timely as I've just got back from Italy. Anyway, really pleased to see Dave Seah's blog highlighted. I love his "portable CEO" templates, I'm surprised more Philofaxers haven't discovered him. Maybe now they will.

Suzee (2012-10-23 16:24:56)

I'm a near followers I love this blog . I do not own a Filofax..yet...I was using a "travel" size planner, but just recently went back to my classic half size. I love anything to do with planners, paper and pens..I like these posts of different blogs to read.. thank you.

Mony (2012-10-24 00:33:33)

ah ok :)

Filofax A5 Holborn Zip - Review (2012-10-24 00:00) - Steve Morton

Who doesn't like receiving parcels in the post, especially when they look like this one.....

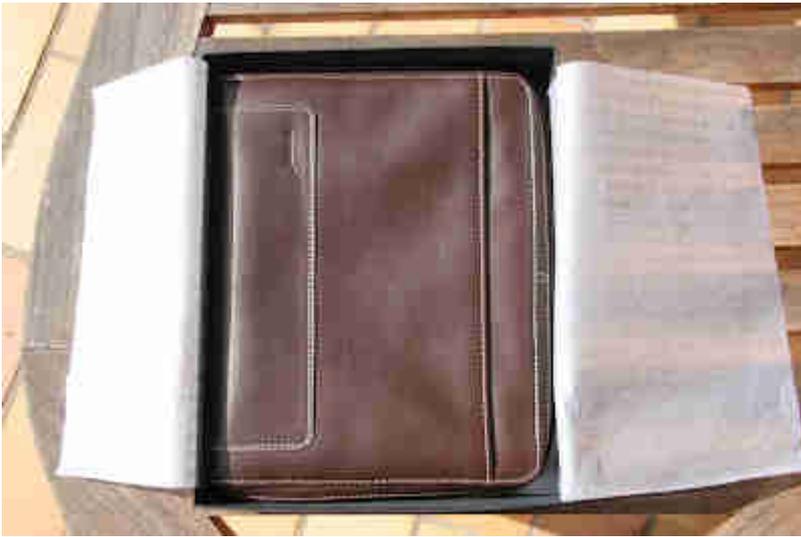


[1]

The 'Mr Philofaxy' did make our young French post lady smile when she asked me to sign for the parcel, she gave me a cheeky grin as she handed over the parcel !!!



[2]



[3]

Inside was an A5 Holborn Zip in brown that I had bought from Erin in her recent grand sale.



[4]

I'm now starting to see what attracts people to this model. The leather is similar to the leather used in the Malden, just as soft and supple, but because of the design of the interior, the cover isn't as floppy, it gives the whole organiser a lot more structure. The outside on the zip model has a slip pocket, which is quite deep and is great for holding notes or leaflets.

The zip model almost lays perfectly flat straight out of the box as well.



[5]

In the left hand side interior you have 5 credit card/business card slots, a large slot pocket at the bottom, A full height slot pocket behind this section, and a leather elasticated pen loop.



[6]

The back cover has a similar full height slot pocket as well as a zipped pocket, the zip sits protected behind a fold in the leather which I think is a nice design touch. There is also another elasticated leather pen loop in the rear cover.

Now, you must be wondering what I'm going to use this new addition for.... with my cupboard already containing other A5's.... yes ok! I'm in fact going to move the contents of my 'work' Property Finding A5 Finsbury in to this organiser. The zip format will work better, I will be able to tuck loose papers inside easier without the worry of them getting lost between properties.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-baHdCiURnlo/UGspvoDfghI/AAAAAAAAANn4/UZk8fxAa8cc/s1600/IMG_3053.jpg
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-wZX0ku8N2xQ/UGspxLY80II/AAAAAAAAANoA/5wtKjZ42Se4/s1600/IMG_3054.jpg
3. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/--NEiG39MFYQ/UGspyoQtKvI/AAAAAAAAANoI/ZKNV88mEQM8/s1600/IMG_3055.jpg
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-3y-D0v58EMw/UGsp0s1libI/AAAAAAAAANoQ/ySwbghWhVx4/s1600/IMG_3056.jpg
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-IFClavRJGzw/UGsp2C4semI/AAAAAAAAANoY/F531ga9gqi8/s1600/IMG_3057.jpg
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Uf2xSt3E-iQ/UGsp300My4I/AAAAAAAAANp4/bXJVHPMYFRI/s1600/IMG_3058.jpg

Anne (2012-10-24 00:43:32)

It looks lovely, like the zip around. Holborn's are so useful with their pockets etc, may have to check zipped A5 out although I know they are being phased out I can't see why.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-24 04:29:36)

Looks lovely Steve - will you show us some pictures when she is fully loaded? A good find and perfect for what you will use her for.

industrious housewife (2012-10-24 04:32:11)

Very practical and stylish, love it.

Cloudberry (2012-10-24 04:41:03)

Hmmm, would make a nice storage for my FiloPals letters...lots of pockets for stamps and envelopes, and two pen loops for fountain pens in different ink colours, a secure zip so nothing falls out. I can imagine myself owning one already...

industrious housewife (2012-10-24 05:55:06)

That sounds lovely.

Alison (2012-10-24 06:21:09)

I have the A5 Holborn Zip in Brown and Wine and they are my favourites, can't see me ever moving out of them :-)

Jarfm.com (2012-10-24 13:55:56)

Only problem with the fountain pen idea is the size of the fountain pen as I can't fit my Lamy Al Stars in them :(But they do fit a Pilot V5 Ball and I use the clip of a Muji and Bic 4 colour pen to clip them onto the card holder bit in the front, one at the top and one at the bottom so they fit above and below the papers.

I use mine as my everyday binder and carry some stamps and letter things around in the back pocket/zip bit as you mentioned! :) It is lovely!

Erin Dale (2012-10-24 15:43:30)

So glad Mr. Holborn went to a good home and that the packaging made you and postwoman smile. Great post Steve and would love to see it all filled up!

LJ (2012-10-25 11:28:01)

Good choice - the A5 Holbourn is awesome :o)

Anita (2012-10-25 12:50:34)

Thanks for sharing your new purchase, Steve. I loved Saz's one at the meet up & found myself stroking it without meaning to :)

Nina the Chaotic Perfectionist (2012-10-27 05:11:49)

What a "Little" Beauty. I'm still overwhelmed by all the Holborns. They are so lovely and classy and stylish and soft and Wow.

Maybe one Day... ;)

Ring Bound Organisers Other Brands.... (2012-10-25 00:00) - Steve Morton

There are several reasons why people might want to move away from using a Filofax organiser, but still want to use a ring bound organiser. I'm not going to go in to these reasons, they are personal decision people might take and I'm cool about that.

However, just because you have decided to no longer use a Filofax personal organiser that does not mean you are no longer welcome here at Philofaxy, far from it. Whilst we tend to focus on Filofax branded organisers, we are interested in all ring bound paper planner solutions.

This is in the same way that Laurie's [1]Plannerisms blog deals with all 'bound' paper planners, although that isn't a hard and fast rule, because you will occasionally see ring bound paper planners over there

too. So between us we look at covering all paper planners one way or another, and also bring you news from other blogs that cover paper planners in any form.

So getting to the point of this post.... what other brands of ring bound organisers are there? So firstly thank you to everyone who contributed to compiling the list below. I wouldn't be so brave to call it a definitive list, but hopefully we will cover as many of the well known brands as possible.

Please note that I have carried out no checks on page sizes or hole spacing for any of these listed, if you want to use Filofax inserts in any of these, please check with the supplier before you purchase them.

- [2]ADK
- [3]Agenda Moderne
- [4]Almanacksförlaget
- [5]Arc by Staples
- [6]Aspinal of London
- [7]Baron
- [8]Burde
- [9]Cabero
- [10]CC-Kalenteripalvelu
- [11]Collins
- [12]Collins Debden
- [13]Chronoplan
- [14]Cross
- [15]Davinci ([16]Retailer)
- [17]Day Runner
- [18]Day Timer
- [19]Diarpell
- [20]DodoPad
- [21]Extacompta
- [22]Filofax (UK)
- [23]Franklin Planner
- [24]Grand Luxe
- [25]Greenwitch
- [26]Glen Royal
- [27]Havard Planners
- [28]Herlitz
- [29]Inner-B

- [30]IPPS
- [31]Kate Spade
- [32]Keny
- [33]The Last Diary Company
- [34]Louis Vuitton
- [35]Lucrin
- [36]Mignon
- [37]MomAgenda
- [38]Montblanc
- [39]Mulberry
- [40]Ordning och Reda
- [41]Org Rat
- [42]Paperchase
- [43]Paul Smith
- [44]Planner Pad
- [45]Poco Profile
- [46]Quo Vadis
- [47]Raika
- [48]Scully Leather
- [49]Succes
- [50]Smythson of Bond Street
- [51]Tempus
- [52]The Bridge
- [53]The Success Choice
- [54]Time Planner
- [55]Time Manager International
- [56]Time System
- [57]Uncalendar

If you know of others, please add them in to the comments including the main manufacturers website and I will up date the list from time to time.

1. <http://www.plannerisms.com/>
2. <http://www.adk.cz/katalog/planovaci-systemy/kompletni-diare/>
3. <http://www.agenda-moderne.com/>
4. <http://www.almanacksforlaget.se/>
5. http://www.staples.co.uk/ARC_Home_subsite

6. <http://www.aspinaloflondon.com/>
7. http://www.leathergoods.co.nz/category.php?id_category=39
8. <http://burde.com/>
9. <http://www.cabero.es/>
10. <http://www.kalenteri.fi/>
11. <http://www.collinsdebden.co.uk/>
12. <http://www.collinsdebden.com.au/>
13. <http://www.chronoplan.com/>
14. <http://cross.com/>
15. <http://www.raymay.co.jp/davinci/index.html>
16. <http://global.rakuten.com/en/search?pf=&pt=&f=0&fs=0&vm=2&sm=0&st=&tl=205820&k=davinci>
17. <http://www.dayrunner.com/>
18. <http://www.daytimer.com/>
19. <http://www.diarpell.it/>
20. <http://www.dodopad.com/>
21. http://www.exacompta.com/fr/catalogue/articles_exacompta.php?code=01801030
22. <http://tidd.ly/8bcd0d0a>
23. <http://franklinplanner.fcorgp.com/store/category/cat133/US-All-Binders>
24. <http://www.grandluxe.com/products-page/organiser/>
25. <http://www.greenwitch.it/>
26. <http://glenroyal.com/>
27. http://www.executive.org/agendas/FHome_Planners.asp
28. <http://www.herlitz.de/>
29. <http://www.inner-b.com.au/>
30. <http://www.ipps.co.uk/>
31. <http://www.katespade.com/cute-stationery/personal-organizers/paper-organizers,default,sc.html>
32. <http://www.keny.com.tw/>
33. <http://lastdiary.com.au/>
34. http://www.louisvuitton.co.uk/front/#/eng_GB/Collections/Men/Small-Leather-Goods
35. <http://www.lucrin.co.uk/>
36. <http://www.agendas-mignon.fr/agendas.php>
37. <http://www.momagenda.com/>
38. <http://www.montblanc.com/>
39. <http://www.mulberry.com/#/storefront/c5501/c6598/>
40. <http://www.ordning-reda.com/>
41. <http://www.org-rat.de/>
42. <http://tidd.ly/f1fb58ba>
43. <http://www.paulsmith.co.uk/>
44. <http://plannerpad.com/>
45. <http://www.pocoprofile.com.au/>
46. <http://quovadis.eu/site/page-collection/agendas/organiseurs/>
47. <http://www.raikausa.com/>
48. <http://www.scullyleather.com/catalog/items.asp?BRN=ACC&DIV=SCU&CAT=AL>
49. <http://www.succes.com/>
50. <http://www.smythson.com/stationery/diaries-and-organisers.html>
51. <http://www.tempus.de/>
52. <http://thebridge.it/>
53. <http://www.thesuccesschoice.com/>
54. <http://www.bsb-shop24.de/>
55. <http://www.timemanager.com/timemanager/start.nsf>
56. <http://www.timesystem.co.uk/>
57. <http://www.uncalendar.com/overview.jsp?index=1>

Jotje (2012-10-25 01:54:14)

The success choice

Chronoplan

Herlitz

Ido Ridé

Jotje (2012-10-25 01:55:38)

Exatime

Sari (2012-10-25 02:00:08)

Montblanc - very nice paper and FF compatible sizes for A5, Personal, Pocket and Mini.

Butanben (2012-10-25 02:04:03)

I've come to the conclusion that actually a good Filofax product takes a heck of a lot of beating!! Just wish, as others have said, that the ring issues and the range of stationery and accessory products could be broader and that they offered each binder in every colour, size and ring size. Then.....IMHO they'd be at the top of their game!!

Laurie (2012-10-25 02:20:02)

Uncalendar has ring binder systems for their Half Size (5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches) and Full Size (8 1/2 by 11 inches) planners:

<http://www.uncalendar.com/overview.jsp?index=1>

Laurie (2012-10-25 02:21:51)

And PS thanks Steve for compiling this huge list of other ring binder brands! Will the compiled list go under Links or somewhere? It would be nice to have this list and their links easily accessible so when people ask about other brands in the future we can direct them to the list.

Nat (2012-10-25 02:37:17)

L'Agenda Moderne- gorgeous personal size binders that are much more lightweight and slim than filfo

Helen Conway (2012-10-25 02:40:04)

I am sorry I cannot leave a comment but I am too much in pain from banging my head against the table in despair at how much of today it's now going to be dissipated with me lusting after yet more products I had never heard of. I have only been to Aspinal so far... Have you seen their compact A5s? Oh the desire...

But, I wonder, can all the contributors to the list confirm ring compatibility with Filofax or not so we can see how interchangeable inserts are?

David Popely (2012-10-25 03:06:41)

TMI binders will take Filofax paper, although TMI inserts are wider than FF - the opposite of the usual Franklin Covey 'issue'. In fact, I've never tried FC refills in a TMI binder, but that might just work ...

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 03:39:11)

Yes I will add them in a section on the links page

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 03:40:06)

Got any links please for the ones I missed out. Thanks

Laurie (2012-10-25 03:50:30)

Please note, Uncalendar pages are not compatible with any Filofax sizes. They sell binders for their inserts. I don't know for sure, but especially the Full Size might work with some American brands of binders (Franklin Covey Monarch size for example).

Alison Reeves (2012-10-25 04:17:43)

Thank you for this Steve - what an amazing list! Finding THE perfect binder can be a bit of a grail, especially if you like good quality long lasting ones! I'd be tempted to save up for a Mont Blanc one as their quality is superb - I just wish they weren't virtually all black!

Cloudberry (2012-10-25 04:25:25)

Steve, you could add Paul Smith and Organised Mum to the list. They are both compatible with FF personal size.

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 04:37:42)

Paul Smith yes... Organised Mum just sell Filofax and Collins organisers!

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 04:38:19)

It must be me.... but I can't find the organisers on the Montblanc site?

Thanks

Steve

Cloudberry (2012-10-25 05:35:13)

Oopps, sorry, yes. I was thinking of the OM inserts rather than the binders. I have a PS Swirl binder - about to blog on it. The inserts are available separately from an Italian site.

freehugs (2012-10-25 05:41:56)

This is my first time commenting here but I just thought I should mention that dodopad sell a dodopod that takes filofax persinal sized inserts.

java's mum (2012-10-25 06:01:07)

Inner-b sells an A5 organiser and inserts that are a mum/family style planner, and they also do a pregnancy organiser.

<http://www.inner-b.com.au/>

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 06:22:09)

Yes I'm aware of the DodoPad, but I'm concentrating on the organisers themselves in this list rather than the inserts.

JohnofJenkins (2012-10-25 06:25:06)

The Last Diary Company - Victoria Australia / info@lastdiary.com.au They can be found in Office Choice , Office National, most good Newsagents and Australia Post. I use their inserts from time to time and they do fit a Filofax.

JohnofJenkins (2012-10-25 06:27:18)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 06:28:03)

Are they ring bound organisers? Looking now...

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 06:28:35)

OK thank you, added.

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 06:29:08)

Thank you added

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 06:29:53)

I can't find Ido Ride via English Google??

pilgrim (2012-10-25 06:43:50)

Well done & superb work.

Am now to spend as long as necessary seeking new products and seeing what more I could fit into my Filo.

As off at a tangent, does anyone know the largest 'capacity' A5 Filo?

I bought a lovely A5 zip, but takes less than a non zip because of the zip facility.

Best wishes and regards fellow organising and stationery freaks

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 06:45:41)

Hi, thank you.

A5's with 30 mm rings... Finsbury, Domino, Malden.

Look through this file to help:

<http://www.philofaxy.com/files/Filofax.pdf>

Steve

Tim (2012-10-25 07:17:26)

Helen - ring spacing is another complete post in itself (and the subject of a previous post), as is paper size compatibility. The differences across the various brands are enormous!

For example TMI (Time Manager) original binders have exactly the same ring spacing as Filofax personal but have 18cm x 10cm paper size (better width than Filofax). Time Manager A5 is the same paper size as Filofax A5 but has different ring spacing.

Sari (2012-10-25 07:17:30)

Hi, Steve, if I go to the Montblanc Homepage (www.montblanc.com) they redirect me automatically to the german page, there is a section called 'Leather'(Lederwaren) and a subsection called 'Organiser &Agenda'
-><http://www.montblanc.com/de-de/shop/leather/browse.aspx>

OR at Montblanc.com -> choose 'collections' -> 'Leather'-> 'gender' -> and although they show you a briefcase(men) and a handbag (women) if you click on either you come to the different styles (like Meisterstück, LaVie deBoheme,Diaries &Notes) and there are also their organisers (e.g. Diaries &Notes -> <http://www.montblanc.com/de-DE/Flash/Default.aspx/#/collections/leather/female/diaries-notes>)

I find the organisation of the homepage somewhat strange, too, this was my first visit to it (I usually go to a shop) and it took me quite a while to find what I was looking for..... the organisers and the paper are a lot better than their web design :-)

Sari (2012-10-25 07:22:52)

Hi, Alison,

no, they are not all black ;-)).

The 'Tribute to the Montblanc' is actually white, and the Diaries &Notes style come in tan and red too. I have a pocket size red Diaries &Notes, it is really nice and has a very fountain-pen friendly pen loop - which I really appreciate. The quality is amazing, I absolutely agree!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-25 07:40:37)

Wow, just been looking through and now I know I'm definately possibly maybe going to paperchase to get my personal size filo as a wallet...

janet (2012-10-25 08:24:37)

Aspinal is compatible with Filofax (well my binder is a few years old and it was then) but check the size rather than the name because as I recall their so called A5 binder was more a personal Filofax size when I bought mine so I had to size one up to get it the same as the filo A5.

janet (2012-10-25 08:30:38)

Thank you for this lovely list Steve. I have Aspinal, Smythson, Mulberry and Montblanc binders. My fave is the Mulberry because it just lasts so well, the quality is epic and that Darwin leather really is the very best.

Louis Vuitton also do binders and used to personalise free of charge (well I guess you are paying a whacking great price for the binder). Hermés do nice binders too but I have not seen one in a while. I know their notebooks and binders are not compatible with anything else because they take great pains to tell you when you are in the shop. Ordning och Reda (the Swedish brand) do lovely A6, A5 and A4 binders in gorgeous leather and textiles but they are compatible with Swedish hole punches rather than a binder brand. When I send folders over to our school in the UK though I just send a holepunch with them.

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 08:50:04)

Thank you... helps if I'm not on the French site which doesn't appear to have them!! OK on the UK site though!!

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 08:51:59)

'What Tim said'

I will put my hand up and plead guilty to the charge of not really doing a full analysis on paper sizes and ring spacings.... not easy information to come by as I've found previously!

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 08:52:31)

Oh and sorry.... Welcome to Philofaxy... how rude of me!

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 08:52:51)

OK thank you found and now added.

Steve Morton (2012-10-25 08:57:53)

Thank you Janet, Ordning och Reda added to the list. LV already in the list.

Regards

Steve

Neil (2012-10-25 09:35:32)

Wow! I never knew there were so many binders out there. However, perhaps it might be worth including disc bound products, such as the ARC notebook system, given that so many of the inherent problems associated with FF (cost, paper quality, flatability, etc) are resolved. The special punch will be available in the UK any day now, making the ARC system a viable alternative for traditional ring binder users.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-25 09:59:09)

Oh - time for another look then!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-25 10:02:25)

Yes - getting the punch over here could open a whole new avenue of agonising for all of us!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-25 10:05:29)

I'd be interested to know which of all these brands people think wear particularly well or badly - especially from personal experience?

Filofax have a great range currently, but I am disappointed with their longevity - in some cases they seem to wear and look tatty rather than 'lived in' - in other words many of them don't age well. I don;t mind paying a good sum for a binder that is going to last a long time and hopefully get better (or develop a personality) with age.

Neil (2012-10-25 10:23:12)

Alison,

Staples have emailed me, saying the punch will be in their stores on November 1st, but you can already buy one online and have it shipped free of charge to your nearest store.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-25 10:56:07)

Whoosh - that's me heading for the staples website to have a look!

Nicole (2012-10-25 11:00:18)

Brands from Asia:

Keny (Taiwan) http://www.keny.com.tw/product_a.htm

Grandluxe (Singapore) <http://www.grandluxe.com/products-page/organiser/>

Butanben (2012-10-25 11:03:31)

I utterly agree there Alison! Quality and longevity is what most folks want... and a goodly selection of stationery and accessory products.

Butanben (2012-10-25 11:16:28)

Hi there Philofaxers,

Whilst I was looking through this wowsome list.... and by the way fabulous work there Steve, I came across Inner-B on the list. It has some free downloads and under Master to Do List is a Christmas Master to do list!!! Made my day!! Apologies for the C word there, but I know preparations have to start earlyish in most homes!!! I have printed 4 list sides on 2 pages, back to back, 1 each for dad, friends, family, and home. A fabulous find.... although not technically to do with Steve's posting here it was such a good incidental find, I wanted to share it!! I wonder if other religions with their unique and individual traditions have similar periods of rush around and panic that nothing is forgotten, that Christmas seems to bring upon us???

Butanben (2012-10-25 11:20:20)

Excuse the capital letter typos above! Normal service will be resumed after a cup of Assam tea and a slice of ginger cake!!

Maria (2012-10-25 11:27:24)

Common in Sweden: Burde by burde.com and A-plan and ProPlan by Almanacksförlaget.

Maria (2012-10-25 11:27:53)

Common in Sweden: Burde by burde.com and A-plan and ProPlan by Almanacksförlaget.

LJ (2012-10-25 11:50:40)

Oh ginger cake - how I miss thee... enjoy!!!

LJ (2012-10-25 11:51:22)

Looking forward to checking all these links out - maybe I'll wait a while before I start my 3 months of no shopping...

Cheryl (2012-10-25 12:24:56)

Thanks for enabling ;-) I'm only on the 3rd one on the list (Aspinal of London) and I'm hyperventilating. Can't wait to get through all these links!

Cassandra (2012-10-25 13:24:35)

Dodo pad:)

Women's success choice planner. www.thesuccesschoice.com

PigPodPDA. [http://pigpog.com/2007/01/20/pigpogpda-a-moleskin-hacked-into-a-comple te-system/](http://pigpog.com/2007/01/20/pigpogpda-a-moleskin-hacked-into-a-comple-te-system/)

GSD <http://blog.utilware.com/gsd>

Planner Perfect. www.plannerperfect.com. (Hint: buy the e-book and use the ideas, save yourself a lot of money)

7 minute life. www.7minutelife.com

gmax (2012-10-25 13:26:41)

I recently found this quite entertaining 1988 US magazine [1]article that includes a brand comparison. Be prepared to disagree with what you read...

1. <http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=ysvbfXayTMkC&lpg=PA70&ots=LdQ-Cii2MV&dq=lefax%20pocket%20magazine&pg=PA70#v=onepage&q=lefax%20pocket%20magazine&f=false>

Jotje (2012-10-25 13:30:30)

thesuccesschoice.com

Ido Ride, Herlitz, Chronoplan, and Brunnen and BSB Opacher (forgot to mention those two!) are available on amazon.de, ebay.de and beiz.de.

On Beiz.de go to Bürowelt (top left), Zeitplanung (last option in the list), then Timeplaner.

You get all the binders from the above (minus Thesuccesschoice.com obviously)

freehugs (2012-10-25 13:30:53)

Haha, Thank you

Its a binder albeit a simple one

<http://www.dodopad.com/shop/calendar-year-diaries-calendars/personal> pod

Jotje (2012-10-25 13:34:37)

Actually, I just noticed that you linked Succes to the Canadian website which has a rather boring binder selection. Succes however is a hugely popular brand in Holland, so you should all take a look at succes.nl

You'll be blown away by the modern, fashionista designs, though they also have very classy and durable beautifully crafted leather binders!

As for compatibility:

A5 = A5

Standard = Personal

Junior = Pocket

They have a size between Personal and Pocket, called Senior. Downside: the only suitable inserts are from Succes itself ...

Jotje (2012-10-25 13:44:02)

Oh thanks so much for sharing! I laughed so hard, my daughter got scared! LOL

I love the excuse to own a Filofax: "Oh, you know ... It was a gift from the Prince of Wales." and Lefax's Menstrual Calendar being named the "Loopiest feature or accessories". Priceless!

Jotje (2012-10-25 13:52:45)

And just so all of you Philofaxy-readers know: "we are all carrying around the equivalent of a personalized encyclopedia-cum-glove compartment ..." (And if you've seen my A5 Filofax lately, you'll have to admit that this is true).

And this quote just sums it up beautifully:

"As opposed to the homeless people who push around teetering, piled-up shopping carts containing every shred of their sad existences, planner-obsessives carry their whole lives around in ostrich-skin binders - VOLUNTARILY."

Damn. That's me!

MHUAHHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!

Laurie (2012-10-25 14:10:51)

Fantastic article!!! Too bad Filofax rings no longer "snap shut like a Mercedes door." Every day I read some other person having to send their Filofax back due to gappy rings!

Cheryl (2012-10-25 14:13:31)

Here's the Success Canada catalog I've had bookmarked for awhile. Be prepared to gasp (and maybe drool).

<http://succescanada.com/cat2012.pdf>

amanda (2012-10-25 14:14:19)

I think the commenter was referring to the binder itself! <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/dodopod-binder.html>

Superpooky (2012-10-25 14:20:15)

Good post and glad that all are welcome. In the 90s I used what I thought was a personal size Filofax. Used it for years and it still feels good to hold. However I moved away from it and then to my amazement found out it was a Microfile (I think that Filofax may have bought them over at one point?) Recently I got a beautiful Cross leather binder in a personal size. Original inserts are more the Franklin Covey slightly larger size but I have happily put Filofax personal sized ones in. I don't really use it much but the joy of finding a £65 binder in TKMaxx was too good to resist!

Superpooky (2012-10-25 14:21:46)

Of course it didn't cost £65 in TK, it cost £15

Sari (2012-10-25 14:31:41)

Weeeeeel, the Mulberry Agenda size uses the same ring space, the Mulberry pages are just about 0.5 cm wider. Also all true A6 formats work.....

janet (2012-10-25 14:39:15)

Mulberry wears the best in my opinion. Those binders are pricey but you really get something that you can use strenuously for the rest of your life. The rings, the zipper pulls, the lining. Everything is just made perfectly. Smythson it depends on the leather. The pigskin and calfskin wears well but the exotic limited editions not so much. Louis Vuitton it is impossible to wear out - the waxed canvas just never ever shows wear and the leather oxidises to a wonderful caramel.

janet (2012-10-25 14:41:32)

I have a gorgeous tan Montblanc with yellow stitching and they do lovely red ones too. Keep an eye out on the sales as they go for good prices then.

Superpooky (2012-10-25 14:45:07)

Of course it didn't cost £65 in TK, it cost £15

Superpooky (2012-10-25 14:45:26)

Of course it didn't cost £65 in TK, it cost £15

Tim (2012-10-25 15:58:10)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Tim (2012-10-25 16:00:21)

Alison - I've just succumbed to a leather Flex in tan. The design is fine, but the quality? Oh dear! Superficially OK, but the leather feels thin and cheap. Certainly not something to show off and certainly not designed for longevity.

I'm just comparing now with my 1991 Time Manager compact. Well designed and superb quality. Still available to buy today and a similar price to an A5 leather Flex. If only TMI had made an A5 compact. I would never buy from Filofax again!

Anthony Hill (2012-10-25 16:05:21)

Yes I also love Assam FTGFOP, loose leaf of course, from Tisanes Broadway, Worcs.

katka (2012-10-25 17:00:20)

Greenwitch

<http://www.greenwitch.it/site/?lang= &p=1577>

Mignon

<http://www.agendas-mignon.fr/agendas.php>

I think Gucci has some ring organisers as well. Also I'm sure I saw some in Braun Buffel shop, but I can't find any on their website.

Also I have one Czech producer, but unfortunately they don't have english version.

<http://www.adk.cz/katalog/planovaci-systemy/kompletni-diare/>

Josh (2012-10-25 17:09:42)

"It's writing a journal without all that dreary, Virginia Wolf-y introspection" Too true.

I suppose that as the modern Mercedes door no longer "snap[s] shut", "FILOFAX" may feel justified in allowing it's ring mechanisms to fail to "shut" at all?

katka (2012-10-25 17:13:18)

Oh and Radley used to do some Mini ring organisers. There are not any on their website, but you can find them on ebay from time to time.

Josh (2012-10-25 17:15:44)

I also find the comparison of DayTimer material being closest to "Buick upholstery" while DayRunner is equated with "vinyl car roof" is just too perfect for words. How incredibly astute!

Josh (2012-10-25 17:22:44)

On the subject of other binders, I believe that Gucci makes a ring binder. Looks incredibly sturdy and well made, but rather pricey.

Savannah (2012-10-25 19:02:55)

Wow. Thanks for all the references. I was thinking a few months ago how nice it would be if Philofaxy would welcome all ring binder lovers because we are really all cut from the same cloth. It's so nice to hear that Philofaxy will now be inclusive.

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-25 20:19:02)

Me too - Finally! They've taken long enough to get it here. Now when might we see some of the nice covers they have in the US, I wonder?

Doris (2012-10-25 20:30:53)

What a comprehensive list! But I will stop myself from looking – for now! Thanks!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-25 21:12:57)

Steve - what the heck were you thinking? You have to know everything!!! Just kidding - that would have been a full-time job trying to find all that out. I've read a few of the articles you wrote about ring-sizes and comparisons and they were impressive but I'm guessing time consuming, too. Appreciate all you do.

Patty

Butanben (2012-10-26 03:10:48)

Ooooh.... Anthony, that sounds good!!! Thanks for the tip off!! That address is going straight into the Filofax!! Hee Hee!! LJ the ginger cake was Waitrose's own... old fashioned with little sugar nibbles on the top... divine!! Actually I am setting up a recipes Filofax in a plastic wipe down pocket Mode Filofax, bought for a bargain £4 in TK Maxx yonks ago!! Just started this as a huge ongoing project, using filing cards to write the recipes on. A pocket Filo easily fits into the handbag for shopping.... The aim is to eat healthily using seasonal and special offer stuff and to ring the changes from the same old meals!! Maybe my first recipe should be ginger cake!! Actually Filofax binders are good for their range I think... for work one wants a professional leather binder, but for gym, recipes etc a vinyl, cheapie fling in your bag binder... horses for courses as the saying goes!!

Anita (2012-10-26 03:22:30)

Thank you for the brilliant article & it brightened up my breakfast :)

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 04:11:31)

Savannah - Philofaxy has always been inclusive - it's just that filofaxes is where it started and more people have them. We've had posts on other binders before - there is a great 'what is in my binder' by Scoot who has an Aspinal A5.

MySummerTouch (2012-10-26 04:37:16)

What about other type of systems, as ARC by Staples - check this out! I'm considering using it! I think it is very handy!

Tim (2012-10-26 05:20:25)

You're right Summer, but Steve did say it was a list of RING-bound systems whereas ARC is a DISC-bound system. The difference? Rings are generally on a fixed plate and the rings open - although not necessarily mechanically (the original Filofax and Lefax rings had to be opened independently).

Discs are solid and held in place by the paper and binder cover. We shouldn't ignore disc systems, especially since Staples have introduced the Arc models in universal International paper sizes, rather than the Letter and Junior sizes (now only used by the USA). Another attraction is that the biggest gripe about Filofax is their poor Chinese (made by a company called Worldwide) ring mechanisms.

Discs should surely be a separate category though. We would also need to add other manufacturers of disc systems - Circa Levenger, Myndology, Rollabind etc. Like you though, I think a disc system - in A4 or A5 - has a lot to offer over a huge ring binder.

Neil (2012-10-26 11:42:16)

I definitely think that disc bound systems should be included. Surely the common link that (excuse the pun) binds us all is our desire to add or remove pages, rather than some strange fascination with the actual mechanical mechanism that facilitates this feature.

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 11:45:40)

Yes they did take a lot of time to put together just for the few that I've covered, not helped by false and incorrect information from various customer service departments!

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 11:47:51)

Added thanks

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 12:11:08)

Added...

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 12:14:44)

Added thanks

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 12:17:19)

Changed over to the .com address can't put in .nl because you have to be in .nl for it to be accepted.

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 12:17:46)

Added thanks

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 12:19:25)

Suppliers are no good to me Judith, I need the actual makers website, suppliers sites frequently change and then we end up with lots of broken links.

Thanks

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 12:42:12)
McVities Ginger cake.....

Savannah (2012-10-26 15:37:39)

Hi Alison. I've always felt guilty bringing up another brand for some reason. I guess I had the wrong perception. I think Steve's message that all are welcome was helpful in opening the door to people that were unsure if it was OK.

Harri Kankkunen (2012-10-26 17:33:01)

Faber-Castell Design Organizers (Cultpens UK) = <http://www.cultpens.com/acatalog/Faber-Castell-Personal-Organiser-Classic-Black.html>

And since you mentioned the Swedish Burde, I'll throw in the two Finnish brands as well:

Timex = <http://www.ajasto.fi/tuotteet/kalenterit/jaerjestelmaekalenterit/timex>

CC-Kalenteripalvelu = <http://www.kalenteri.fi>

Mannuk (2012-10-27 16:06:52)

In Estonia it's www.sulemees.ee

Tim (2012-10-28 11:37:39)

Comment number 100! - It's a long time since we've had so many on one post!

Researching disk-bound or disk-binding systems shows several manufacturers and even an entry on Wikipedia!

So, there's Arc now on the above list (www.staples.co.uk/arc or www.staples.com/arc) - cheap and cheerful and now available in International ISO sizes, rather than just USA sizing.

Circa by Levenger (www.levenger.com) - very comprehensive system; better quality and more expensive than Arc. Only available in USA sizing but the junior size is very similar to A5. Very favourable comments on websites about their customer service!

Rollabind (www.rollabind.com) - similar quality and USA only sizing.

Atoma (www.atoma.be/en) - Belgian company, so International sizing (A4, A5 etc) but just simple covers (card, plastic etc).

Myndology (www.myndology.com) USA franchise for Atoma.

There may be more!

Reading reviews, most users have migrated from ring-bound systems (like Filoax) and speak very favourably about the change. Maybe someone here would write a post on the subject? I note that Imy (Imysworld) purchased a load of Arc products, but she hasn't blogged on how she got on with it!

Free For All Friday No. 206 (2012-10-26 00:00) - Steve Morton

This weekend sees European countries going back a hour at the end of 'Summer Time' or Day Light Saving Time. As usual it leads to a lot of confusion... well for me anyway, because the US doesn't change for another week. Why we can't all change at the same time I don't know.

To try to make sure I don't forget these important dates I've got them recorded in my Filofax for this year and next year. I have lost count of the number of clocks I have to change twice a year!

So apart from clock changing this weekend have you got any major events planned for this weekend in your Filofax.

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

natalie (2012-10-26 02:49:14)

I'm going to Frankfurt to watch my husband run the marathon.

I have new A5 and haven't had time to customize pages for it so my stuff is just written on plain paper.

I am using the address A-Z as a general index.

Packing list. - filed under T for travel.

Flights and hotels list. - ditto

Copy of the sock pattern I am knitting - filed under K

My diary is under D (obviously).

David Popely (2012-10-26 02:56:26)

Hi Steve. An even better idea might be to forget about British Summer Time, EST, and all the rest, and just stop trying to 'fiddle with nature'! Heads-up to the campaigners - you don't get any more daylight by changing the clocks!

Natalie - please pass on my best wishes to your husband for his marathon? Does he have a time goal in mind? Did me use a Filo to plan his training? As an ex marathon runner (PB of 3:06:20, I had all my schedules, and my training diary, in my Filo from 1978 until a decade later..... Have a great weekend. You didn't say where you are travelling *from*?!

Clareio (2012-10-26 03:20:26)

we get an extra hours sleep though... works for me!

Alison (2012-10-26 03:24:22)

I'm working out my set-up for next year, can I manage with one filo?? or do I stick with A5 for home, Slimline for carrying around or do I upgrade to compact to carry around and main appointments and keep the A5 purely for home management decisions, decisions !!!! :-)

Bridget (2012-10-26 03:36:22)

I've finally decided on a diary format for 2013, only to find I can't order it! I use a personal page per day, and want cotton cream, and I found exactly this on the Swedish site, but they don't ship to New Zealand! Does anyone know any way round this? Are there any other sites selling this insert (or other DPP cotton cream personal 2013 diaries) that might ship to the far away side of the world?

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 04:16:15)

That is a clever way of using the A-Z index. I use mine with the WWW pages (in a personal) to record all my user names and passwords.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 04:18:14)

I agree with David - I don't see that much benefit these days for changing the hours. It can also be very confusing when dealing with people in other countries.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 04:26:54)

I've had my head down with my work (bid and tender writing) the last couple of weeks and it spilled over into last weekend. So - assuming nothing goes really haywire with the bid - this weekend I should get some time to myself. I am looking forward to doing some quilting / sewing and also some filofax organising.

I recently moved into a personal to see how I got on, and it's working out really well - I would never have carried my A5 around with me and things got messy if I updated my phone and forgot to update the planner in my filofax. I still have a lot of setting up to do (I wanted to see if it worked before moving in completely), and I'm keen to create some new dividers and get everything labeled up.

I've been using my Snake Bronze personal which is a really pretty binder and very durable and comfortable to hold. I've just received the Holborn I won on the twitter Filofax competition - it's a zipped wine one and very, very beautiful. I'm keen to move into that, the only thing that concerns me is the rings. When you open up the binder the zip seems to pull at the rings so I can see problems ahead. Also the place where the zip pull opens to (at the bottom) sort of gets in the way of the opening mechanism and I'm not sure if this is a design fault.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 04:28:44)

Does anyone know why we have to use the levers when opening the ring mechanisms? You don't have to in other binders (normal ring binders) so why in the Filofax? I've read it can damage the rings if you don't open them properly, but have never known why.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 04:30:25)

Bridget - I feel your pain. I have to get 2013 sorted but can't find what I want in cotton cream. Perhaps I should spend some time this weekend trying out the self print ones from Ray and Steve, but I seem to get into a pickle with the printer!

MySummerTouch (2012-10-26 04:55:26)

Does anyone know the site where I can buy the cheapest NEW A5 (with 2032 inserts) Filofax - I want Finchley, Malden, or Domino, with international shipping, to Russia (also with cheap shipping)? Thank you in advance for answering!

Lily (2012-10-26 04:56:40)

Hey guys, I found some A5 rings with small diameters on ebay!!!! http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/CHROME-METAL-MECHANISM-6-RINGS-Spacing-of-Rings-20-20-70-20-20mm-A5-Filofax-/271037460316?pt=UK_BOI_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item3f1b176f5c

Helen Conway (2012-10-26 05:01:27)

Do they deliver to the UK? If so, and if you are prepared to trust me, you can order them, send them here and I will post them on to New Zealand for you at my cost. You can then pay that forward by doing something nice for someone in new Zealand when you get the chance. Contact me at studioconway (at) gmail.com to exchange snail mail addresses if you like.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-26 05:03:40)

Maybe it's that if we were to pull it open by the same ring every time, such as the top ring, that one would get pulled hundreds of times per year and would eventually cause a gap in the rings? Otherwise, I don't know, and there seem to be enough problems even when we do use the levers!!

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 05:03:59)

Try City Organiser, they do ship worldwide Click on the link in the side bar.

Their discount code (10 %) at the moment is **firework**

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 05:09:30)

The levers operate on the base of the mechanism so it opens all of the rings with the same pressure. If you have an old Filofax, you can remove the tin plate cover of the mechanism and you will see how it all works.

I did a post on it here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/07/filofax-ring-mechanism.html>

The amount of movement in the plates is very small but enough to open the rings so you can insert the pages.

The channel that the plates sit in provides the spring compression action to hold the rings open or closed.

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 05:10:56)

For several months now I have been using A5 at home and a compact as my 'carry-around' it works for me... although occasionally I wish I had more capacity... I'm doing a post on this at the moment! Watch this space.

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-26 05:21:23)

Totally agree Alison and David, I really don't see the point of the change at all, but it might if you are a Scottish farmer...

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-26 05:23:08)

Looking forward to that one, I have an a5 for work which sits on my desk and a personal which I carry around as a wallet and for day to home stuff.

Tim (2012-10-26 05:42:00)

Deborah - you're right! It has always been the Scottish farming lobby that has stopped the change, arguing that farming needs to maximise the hours of morning daylight.

The most recent proposal - which nearly happened - was to NOT put the clocks forward this autumn, but still put them forward by an hour next spring. This would have brought us inline with our European neighbours and would have been a tremendous boost for UK tourism and reduced electric consumption. So we would have had an extra hour in the evening before dark - most UK outdoor attractions now have to close by 4.30pm in the winter and all the lights in homes and shops turned on by then.

I'm old enough to remember the experiment (1968-71) when we didn't put the clocks back. OK, it was dark (ish) going to school in the mornings but at least it wasn't so dark after school. It was abandoned in 1972 largely due to pressure from the farming industry.

To get back on Filofax - it's only recently that we (in Europe) have changed clocks at the same time. France used to change at the end of September, for example and making a headache for printing international Filofax inserts.

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 05:48:19)

I would fully support UK coming in to line with Europe... but for selfish reasons... living in France all the TV we watch is an hour later!

Tim (2012-10-26 05:50:45)

Good find Lily. Shame they are 22mm size. Now that Filofax have numerous 20mm fitted binders, these won't be so attractive. Now if they were A5 but 15mm....

Paul Reynolds (2012-10-26 06:01:13)

Hello all. This is my first posting on Philofaxy, although I have been lurking for quite a while now. I bought my first Filofax a couple of years ago, and quickly became addicted. I now use two filofaxes, a personal and a pocket, but recently changed the personal to a compact. I really love my new compact Holborn, and it is the first Filofax I've owned which lies flat! This has made me rather dissatisfied with my pocket, which is a Kendal and does not lie flat at all (although I love it in every other respect) and so I am now looking for a pocket-sized Filofax which lies flat "out of the box". I am not so keen on the ones which have the full-width wallet-style pocket, because that makes them feel rather bulky to me, so that rules out the pocket Holborn, Malden and probably several others. Does anyone have any suggestions?

Many thanks

Paul

Steve Morton (2012-10-26 06:25:52)

Hi Paul

Welcome to Philofaxy....

The Aston and the Finchley pockets don't have the full length rear pocket. It's the rear pocket that stops these from laying flat, initially at least.

Steve

David Popely (2012-10-26 06:29:15)

2032 inserts? I ad no idea Filofax were so far ahead on diaries!!!

I bet that's not FF UK you're ordering from.....:)

David Popely (2012-10-26 06:32:26)

If you can stand the claustrophobia, it seems WHS are having a clearance on binders at the moment, both in-store and online (obviously the claustrophobia isn't so bad online unless you take your laptop to one of their shops, which would be a bit pointless, n'est-ce pas?). I saw a rather nice scarlet Cuban Personal in Swansea this morning.....also the increasingly-rare Kendal Personal, which I've just ordered online for onward transmission to Fiona in Oz. Free P &P on orders over £15 (which would be all of them in this case. Many binders half price.

What a shame you have to go to WHS to get them....

Paul Reynolds (2012-10-26 06:55:48)

Thank you very much for these suggestions Steve - I'll check them out.

Paul

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-26 08:10:01)

I'm still in planner fail- I need to find an insert that allows me to plan my day by appointment slots when I need to, still with space for space for to-dos and notes, but on days when I don't have many appointments, I want more space for to-dos. I am testing out different diary formats, but nothing works perfectly at the moment, but I am going to try some hacks to find something that works!

JasJan (2012-10-26 08:29:52)

Have you tried Daytimer Day on two pages. I find these ideal

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-26 08:33:40)

Yes it is a shame....Whsmiths crowded....My local store in Reading has not been crowded for years...and doesn't have much of a choice,but online the choice is fairly good...

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-26 08:33:48)

Yes, I had them in the lovely Flavia range- but there is far too much space for me! That's my problem, inserts either have too much, or not enough, space for me!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-26 08:50:48)

Why do I get the feeling the perfect outlay does not exist!

janet (2012-10-26 08:51:12)

I live way North up in Sweden and when the clocks go back it pitches us into almost total darkness until March 10 when the light finally comes back.

janet (2012-10-26 08:53:24)

I am in Sweden so I don't mind buying them and posting them on to you if you have Paypal. I can buy and send them and then you just reimburse me. Email me at janet.carr at gmail dot com.

Janet

Cheryl (2012-10-26 09:36:13)

I'm in the same boat...A5 at home, compact as 'carry around' but I go back and forth on feeling I am leaving important info at home that doesn't fit in the compact vs not wanting to carry a personal around because it got too heavy. Looking forward to the post.

Cheryl (2012-10-26 09:47:37)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Cheryl (2012-10-26 09:49:45)

(Sorry about that above). Football, World Series baseball (Go Tigers) on the tv and fiddling with the A5 Health filofax for me this weekend. Blah. I had a wonderful weekend planned but it all went south when a) I twisted the ankle I just had surgery on and now walking in my walking boot has become impossible and b) my SIL fell last week in the church parking lot (!) and broke her knee cap and both wrists. Good Lord. That's when our 'girls weekend' with my 4 SIL's went from wine tasting, shopping and such to a hospital visit up north. Except I won't be going (doctor's orders). I did send up a box of the most delicious gourmet cupcakes from our local cupcake shop for the girls to enjoy. As for me, I'm home bound this weekend and it just went from 80 degrees yesterday to 50 degrees and rainy today and in the 40's this weekend. Pass a cupcake please. :)

Paul Reynolds (2012-10-26 09:57:00)

I had a look in the shops at lunchtime. I found an Aston, but there was something about it I didn't like . I couldn't find a Finchley anywhere, but I had a look on the Filofax website. Looks OK, but I don't know if I could love it as much as my Kendal. I'll keep looking. I think my ideal pocket would be a kind of "compact pocket" but I don't think such a thing exists.

Incidentally, I wonder why "Compact" does not appear as an option on the Filofax UK website? The compacts are certainly there, but not very easy to find unless you already know about them. (I also wonder why they are still saying that they have a store in Neal Street!)

Paul

Suzee (2012-10-26 10:22:55)

I just bought my first Filofax this morning!!! After LOTS of reading and reviewing different blogs on which one I would want for me, I decided on the Holborn Personal in Brown. I like the idea of all the pockets inside as I will use this as my wallet as well. I have used LOTS of different planners and sizes, thought it was time to join the Filofax family! =) I have made my own pages for other planners I have used and hope to use them in this one. I LOVE your blog! I almost purchased the Holborn zip that you have. But was out of my price range.. I'm looking forward to filling this new baby of mine up and show it off. I'm obsessed at looking at everyones pages and set ups and can spend too much time on the net looking at them all..

Ok I got a question. I see alot of switching of sizes, do you start a new page or write the past weeks down in the new one? If its a same size I know to just move the pages. My dream is to use this for a solid year !! I have different planners/ pages in file boxes and its so hard for me to go back to look up a certain advent or date for something.

BTW, thanks for reminding me of the time change.. I have forgotten before until 3 days later lol

Doris (2012-10-26 10:24:15)

I have a pocket Balmoral and it's a Compact, smaller rings than the usual pocket size. I can measure it if you wish. Doesn't lay flat though, and doubt it ever will. But if it's to be used as a wallet, maybe it wouldn't matter so much.

And I believe the pocket Finchley has the full length pocket for notes, at least on my Teal. Again, writing from memory. Can double-check if you really need to know.

Paul Reynolds (2012-10-26 10:45:23)

Thanks Doris. I am not familiar with the Balmoral. My pocket Kendal has 15mm rings, I think, whereas some pockets have 19mm, so it is already slightly compact. I would ideally like a compact that was also slightly narrower, in the same way that the standard compact is narrower than the personal). I'm going to check out the Boston next, I think (although I am rather put off by the price tag!). Interesting that you think your Finchley *does* have the full length pocket - according to the Filofax website it doesn't, but maybe there have been variations in the past.

Cheryl (2012-10-26 10:48:57)

I compared my Filofax's with my FC's and the levers on the Filofax are small as compared to the FC's. Not that the ones on FC are very large, they just are a bit larger and snap open very easily as compared to the Filofax. Sometimes I struggle getting the rings open on the Filofax binders. One of the websites you posted yesterday (can't remember which one) had on their website to be sure you used the levers and not open the binder by the rings for the very reason you stated...eventually the ring you are pulling will separate and get out of alignment.

Nicole (2012-10-26 10:57:15)

[http://scription.typepad.com/blog/2011/11/scription-chronodex-weekly-planner-2012-free-download-with-the-cost-of-a-prayer.html](http://scription.typepad.com/blog/2011/11/scription-chronodex-weekly-planner-2012-free-download-with-the-cost-of-a-prayer.html#.UIqj38Wcdkk) #.UIqj38Wcdkk

Have you heard of Chronodex? The mindmap format could be ideal for a day per page.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-26 11:00:51)

I am struggling, too - between Classic and Compact (FC) - but I can't use two. Everything has to go in one place! I think I need to use the Classic but I can't quite bring myself to commit. It's SO heavy and big. And I know this

is dumb, but I heard someone else say it here recently, carrying the Classic makes me feel like a nerd. I guess I shouldn't worry about that - I am a nerd!

Cheryl (2012-10-26 11:03:07)

Congrats on your purchase! I've read about the fabulousness of the Holborn but I don't have one myself. Actually, was thinking about getting one while they are still on offer on the US website. Have you stumbled across all the Flickr photos/groups and You Tube videos of Filofax's online? As for switching sizes, I am usually just transferring pages from one size to the same size because I use my larger A5 binders for other purposes not as a diary or day time. The larger A5's are journals or health/fitness books where I don't necessarily need a calendar. As far as archiving past pages I keep my past calendar pages in either a storage binder or Filofax that I am not using and I use the Jan-Feb tabs to keep them organized for easier reference.

When you get your Holborn give us an update on how you set it up!

Laurie (2012-10-26 11:05:00)

Why not use day per page inserts, then add a lined page when you need more room for notes? Or use the week on on page, adding in pages for lists or day per page diary insert pages when you need more room? That's what's so great about ring binders, you can have whichever types of pages suit your needs that day, even if it means using different types!

Laurie (2012-10-26 11:05:50)

(That said, some people don't like using different types of diary pages and prefer a consistent format, so if that's you please disregard my comment above!)

Laurie (2012-10-26 11:08:22)

Patty I hear you! Whenever I'm using a huge or really complicated planner, I always feel a little crazy pulling it out in front of people. I know I shouldn't care what other people think, but I can't help wondering if they think I'm nuts!

crofter (2012-10-26 11:11:16)

The ultimate pocket slim is the Guildford Extra Slim. They are no longer in production, but do turn up on e bay once in a great while. I have one that is my daily carry Filo, and I just love it. It does not have a pen loop or the strap, therefore if necessary, I can carry it in a shirt pocket but don't often do so. The pocket Kendal will eventually lay flat, and will do so much longer than a Finchley or any of the other so called "soft leather" models. If you like that one Paul, stick with it, it will lie flat eventually.

mstraat (2012-10-26 11:14:11)

The Topaz pocket slim is still available at Pens and Leather. www.pensandleather.com

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 11:17:35)

I had a phone call this morning from someone Filofax has engaged to gauge reader opinion on Filofax and their website ahead of a potential revamp of their website.

I gave him my comments on how I used my filofaxes, quality control around the rings and leather, inserts and their lack of range and quality, requirement for more cotton cream, time management style inserts for personal, the burying of TM inserts on the website and lack of it being updated this year, can't find compacts without a specific search (not sure if these are now showing up on the general size page) and how we would like access to a wide range of inserts as per other European sites. I explained how a lack of inserts has resulted in a large number of users printing their own inserts thus eating into their potential sales. I also told him about Philofaxy which he knew nothings about - this really surprised me as I would have thought Filofax would have pointed him here for opinion for his research.

I told him how I thought that the website could do a lot more to promote planner use with a blog with useful examples, and much more interaction with everyone here. Also better photographs of the products and graphics of the insides of every product (sadly lacking these days). Also how a video showing an actual product and inserts would be useful for each product (not the current glammed up slideshow masquerading as a video). Also how I thought the facebook and twitter were run by their PR company rather than themselves (which he confirmed) and

that it didn't seem authentic or interested in followers views. I mentioned that I thought the fashion focus should be a strand of their marketing and not their whole marketing plan and that there were many of us who want a high quality binder that lasts and the facility to by good quality inserts that would take a fountain pen, rather than a throw away accessory. I also voiced my personal view that I didn't like planner/digital binders as they ended up being too heavy - that I would rather have matching leather accessories that each did one job. So I could have a phone case, ipad case and binder all to match. He was interested in how digital and paper blended together. Hope I covered everything - he probably wished he hadn't called me! However I tried to be constructive. Did anyone else get a call? Two things he said which interested me - 1) Filofax as a company are not as big as we might think?? 2) They are looking at the possibility of print on demand inserts so you choose from a combination of factors to get your perfect insert - I thought this sounded interesting and pointed out that it would be nice to do the same with binders - so we get to choose what coloured rings (gold/chrome) and what inserts we want when we buy.

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-26 11:29:41)

Alison Reeves did he need to? I think you covered everything thats ever been said.. No, I haven't received a phone call. Also if he had any sense he should have pleased that someone was prepared to give up their time to answer and to answer so eloquently. If he doesn't want to hear the truth, or anything he doesn't want to hear, then why do a survey. Well done Alison.

Paul Reynolds (2012-10-26 11:30:54)

@crofter: Thanks for the information about the Guildford. I'll keep an eye out for one of those. I wouldn't mind it not having a pen loop. I think pen loops don't work well in certain sizes anyway - in compact and slimline they just seem to get in the way - and as I always carry a Fisher Space Pen in my pocket I don't really need one in my Filofax as well! But thanks for the encouragement about the Kendal - yes, I do really love it, and if it will eventually lay flat then it will be perfect.

@mstraat: Wow, I really like the look of the Topaz - thanks!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 11:43:21)

Deborah-Jane - the chap I spoke to was very nice and did really listen to me - I believe Filofax had commissioned him to do this research. He is presenting his findings in the next week or two. I understand there is a meeting in November with some Philofaxers, the PR company and Filofax themselves and I'm sure these are all issues they will want to discuss as well.

I really hope that if Filofax are getting this same information from different sources that they will act on it.

Jen (2012-10-26 11:45:30)

Just because you can do it with other binders doesn't mean you should. All binders will have the same issue. Use one too much and it is likely to give.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-26 11:46:42)

I'm just writing a blog post to explain my predicament!

Laurie (2012-10-26 11:48:51)

Great job Alison, you really represented us well!

I'm surprised Filofax is suddenly interested in what we want as customers and are listening to our input. I'm holding out hope that maybe the brand will turn around.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 12:10:09)

Just a thought - you can get undated day planner pages from CO - could you just slot one of these in on very busy days?

Helen Conway (2012-10-26 12:24:56)

i need to share my excitement... On Wednesday I bought a compact Regency from Amazon at over £100 off . It was from Webster Pens but the Regency did not show up at all on their own website so I was waiting for an

email saying it was actually not available. But last night I got an email saying it was dispatched and arriving on Tuesday. Yeah!!! But then I got home from work today to find a special delivery card . Straight back in the car to the PO and yes, it was there! It is just gorgeous. Elegant and classy and ... Well , am clearly going to have to learn how to live up to it!! Thanks to Imy and Lady Filo for their posts on the Regency which persuaded me to get one ... Especially Imys waving hers around in the car on the video!

I told my French speaking husband that he could help me order inserts for 2013 from the French site tonight to make sure I get it right. He asked why it was cheaper to order from France. I explained it wasn't but they have day on two pages I can't get in the UK. he looked totally confused and asked why Filofax didnt sell all their products everywhere.... Sigh. If only I could explain!!

Neil (2012-10-26 12:42:27)

@ TPS - Try using a day per page format, and utilise any unused space on previous days for your "to do" lists. Unless you're using Frixion pens, using a diary in this way is an excellent way of not only saving paper but also keeping your filo as light weight as possible.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 12:43:43)

Helen - she looks a beauty - the Regency is one of my favourites of the moment as it looks so classy, so congratulations! I look foward to hearing / seeing how you set it up.

amanda (2012-10-26 13:10:07)

Hi everyone,

I've been a philofaxy reader for about a year, though I rarely comment. Though I've used ring bound planners since i was in grade school, I first discovered filofax when I found a pocket domino at my local charity shop for \$2. I then found philofaxy and purchased my first new filofax (a personal purple Finchley) through a sale on the Swedish filofax site (which i discovered through philofaxy!). It's still the only filofax I use, and I love it, but the rings have started gapping! It seems, from reading here, that this is a common problem. It seems many of you have been able to get this problem repaired by filofax, but I'm not sure how this works. Especially since I didn't order from the US site (where I live), and don't speak Swedish. :-) I'm guessing that I will need to work through the Swedish filofax site to handle this though, right? Or do you think that if I contacted the US site, they would be able to help? also, do they usually repair, or exchange? Not sure how I'd live without my filofax for even a week, but these rings are just gettig worse! My pages are catching... Thanks for any advice :-)

Neil (2012-10-26 13:11:16)

When I read your post, Alison, I nearly fell off my office chair. I couldn't believe that Filofax were phoning customers and asking for their opinions.

I've been banging on at them for a while, trying to get them to consider "print on demand" and "custom fill", so it's great to hear that they're at least thinking about it.

Of course, being a bloke and "merely" using a filofax as an efficient 21st century paper based productivity tool probably means they're not interested my opinions, but it's good to discover a glimmer of positive news.

Well done, Alison.

J (2012-10-26 13:41:52)

I've avoided that issue by just staying with only personal sized binders, and even then, I've only bought two!

And, if you love the Filo enough, you'll stay in it- I've been in my Malden for almost a year and a half (it is also used as my wallet) and I have no desire to get another binder!

Good luck, and make sure to share plenty of photos :)

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-26 13:43:30)

I've just written a blog post about my problem! <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/planner-fail-with-my-filofax-inserts.html>

Alison Reeves (2012-10-26 14:03:49)

Amanda - not sure what others think, but I would contact Filofax US and ask for their customer service details (address/phone number) and deal with them. They don't have to know it came from Sweden - just say you were bought it as a gift. My understanding is that they are offering an exchange - at least that is what is happening here in the UK.

If you can't do without one, could you get a cheap one on ebay or similar and use it afterwards for storing your papers etc? Otherwise you could just put some treasury tags through the holes and use it without a binder for a short while.

Bridget (2012-10-26 15:27:50)

thank you Helen and Janet you are both so lovely to offer! I think its easier to go direct from Sweden so I'll pop you an email Janet. thank you again, philofaxy is such a lovely community!

Anthony Hill (2012-10-26 15:59:16)

Yes my local WHSmith has Finchleys Personal size £39 in red and other sizes etc all at half price. The area where they were on display was completely deserted.

Savannah (2012-10-26 15:59:42)

I agree, I gave up. This is why I always have post its inside my binder in the event that I need to expand whatever format I'm using if needed and use scrap or lined pages when I feel I need more planning power on any given day. What I do know is that I feel dissonance if I don't use two pages per week for my planning framework.

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-26 16:20:05)

Well Alison heres to hope...and may it do the best it can...

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-26 16:21:22)

Helen, because thats would make sense..

Butanben (2012-10-26 17:19:46)

I've found the perfect planner layout for me.... the Ray and Steve 5 line Time Management diary in A5.... so good, I've not changed it all year.... the diary equivalent of comfy shoes!!!! Perfect!!!!

Butanben (2012-10-26 17:22:44)

Awww.... Cheryl.... sorry to hear about that!! Rest on up and get well soon!! xxxx

Butanben (2012-10-26 17:24:26)

Ps.. A huge get well to your SIL too!! The cupcakes sound like a marvellous gift!! xxxx

Butanben (2012-10-26 17:35:18)

Well done our Alison.... I think you had it all covered here!! Like Neil and yourself, I think a bespoke service for binders and stationery would be spot on. so that binders and other accessories can actually mix and match, and be of good quality!!

Suzee (2012-10-26 18:31:58)

Thanks Cheryl and J! I like to stick to one size, but have used a classic size binder and it just seems like wasting space on those big pages. I have scanned some Flickr groups and probably will be looking at some tonight! lol I liked the Maldens too! I'm sure I will enjoy mine for a long time. I will post pics soon! Hoping to get my Holborn in a week.

Anita (2012-10-26 20:41:34)

I had a graphite Topaz slimline pocket briefly & it was a great size, fitting easily into the back pocket of my jeans :)

janet (2012-10-27 06:29:25)

This comment has been removed by the author.

janet (2012-10-27 07:39:32)

It's a pleasure Bridget. My husband is in New Zealand next week so he can bring them over for you which means you will get them sooner. Janet

Anthony Hill (2012-10-27 15:38:47)

Does anyone know if there exists Two Days Per Page Personal in which the pages are ruled. Filofax it appears does not. I just wonder if another company has such a product.

Steve Morton (2012-10-28 04:16:29)

Filofax France do a Two Days per page, but it's not ruled.

Ray and I have got a lined Two Days per Page insert here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/diary-inserts.html> on A4 paper so fairly easy to print.

Steve

Anthony Hill (2012-10-28 16:11:50)

Thanks Steve I'll print off the templates I must have overlooked it when I last looked at the Diary Inserts.

Web Finds - 27 October 2012 (2012-10-27 00:00) - Steve Morton

And again

1. [1]Planning my life with a burnout - Delighted
2. [2]The organised(ish) PhD researcher - Mixosaurus
3. [3]Getting buy with a little help from our Filo-friends - The Crazy Suburban Mom
4. [4]Meet the family - Just an Essex Girl
5. [5]Expenses envelopes for the Filofax Pocket - My Life All in One Place
6. [6]22-28 october ottobre - Mamma StressFilofaxATA
7. [7]uh-oh... - Wandrrlust
8. [8]De-cluttering and letting go - Cloudberry Musings
9. [9]Evolution - Skybluepinkish
10. [10]Seriously? After all we've been through? - The Crazy Life of J
11. [11]Think Pink! - Filomaniac
12. [12]It's cute..really cute..buuut - Circus Life with Disturbed Mamacita
13. [13]My Top 5 Time Management Quotes - Homemaker Daily
14. [14]Guest Post from Vanjilla: "Personal Piccadilly vs. Personal Malden Filofax" - The Storage Studio
15. [15]Uses for Vertical Monthly Inserts: Blogging Schedule - Printed Portal
16. [16]Filofax - It's a way of life - A Mothers Ramblings

17. [17]The point of effective planning... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
18. [18]Question of the month #1; What diary will you be using in 2013? - My Filo World
19. [19]Malden, my sweet friend! - Circus Life with Disturbed Mamacita
20. [20]Filofax Collection of the Week - Kate - TPS - Imysworld
21. [21]my filofax diet: slimming into the deco - Paper Lovestory
22. [22]Decisions, Decisions!!! - Filo Obsessed
23. [23]My new Filofax DIY birthday ruler hack thingy wotsit - All Things Stationery
24. [24]Filofax Upgrade: Hello Coletto! - The Crazy Life of J
25. [25]Filofax Madness - Spy 1988
26. [26]Planner fail with my Filofax inserts... - The Life of The Perpetual Student
27. [27]Comparing apples and oranges - The Crazy Suburban Mom
28. [28]Meet-Up-Premiere in München - Filo-Manie
29. [29]My very first Filofax - vintage 1980s - Cloudberry Musings

And here are the latest videos

IFRAME: [30]http://www.youtube.com/embed/chn_gvBDjBQ?rel=0

IFRAME: [31]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/m646pQyPNtw?rel=0>

IFRAME: [32]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/wcW1R-4L36g?rel=0>

IFRAME: [33]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/ERCOcCsViYI?rel=0>

IFRAME: [34]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/7WD7B2o7Mu0?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://delighted.blogspot.nl/2012/10/planning-my-life-with-burnout.html>
2. <http://mixosaurus.co.uk/2012/10/the-organisedish-phd-researcher/>
3. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/getting-buy-with-little-help-from-our.html>
4. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/10/meet-family.html>
5. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/expenses-envelopes-for-filofax-pocket.html>
6. <http://mammastressataxd.blogspot.fr/2012/10/22-28-october-ottobre.html>
7. <http://wandrrlust.org/2012/10/24/uh-oh/>
8. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/de-cluttering-and-letting-go.html>
9. <http://skybluepinkish.wordpress.com/2012/10/16/evolution/>
10. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/10/seriously-after-all-we-been-through.html>
11. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/think-pink.html>
12. <http://mamacitascircus.blogspot.fr/2012/10/its-cutereally-cutebuuut.html>
13. <http://homemakersdaily.com/my-top-5-time-management-quotes/>
14. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/guest-post-from-vanjilla-personal.html>
15. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/10/25/uses-for-vertical-monthly-inserts-blogging-schedule/>
16. <http://www.amothersramblings.com/2012/10/filofax-its-way-of-life.html>
17. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/the-point-of-effective-planning.html>
18. <http://myfiloworld.com/index.php/question-of-the-month-1-what-diary-will-you-be-using-in-2013/>
19. <http://mamacitascircus.blogspot.fr/2012/10/malden-my-sweet-friend.html>
20. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-collection-of-week-kate-tps.html>

21. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/my-filofax-diet-slimming-into-deco.html>
22. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/10/decisions-decisions.html>
23. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-new-filofax-diy-birthday-ruler-hack.html>
24. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-upgrade-hello-coleto.html>
25. <http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=yvbfXayTMkC&lpq=PA70&ots=LdQ-Cii2MV&dq=lefax%20pocket%20magazine&pg=PA69#v=onepage&q=lefax%20pocket%20magazine&f=false>
26. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/10/planner-fail-with-my-filofax-inserts.html>
27. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/comparing-apples-and-oranges.html>
28. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/10/meet-up-premiere-in-munchen.html>
29. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-very-first-filofax-vintage-1980s.html>
30. http://www.youtube.com/embed/chn_gvBDjBQ?rel=0
31. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/m646pQyPntw?rel=0>
32. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/wcW1R-4L36g?rel=0>
33. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/ERC0cCsViYI?rel=0>
34. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/7WD7B2o7Mu0?rel=0>

Cuban Personal Zip - Training (2012-10-28 00:00) - Steve Morton

I've had the Cuban Personal Zip for nearly a year now and you will find my [1]original review back here. It has huge 30mm rings so it can carry a ton of stuff and given that I'm using my [2]Compact Malden Zip as my carry around Filofax these days I'm not having an issue with the Zip.

However, sometimes I would just like a little more capacity compared to the Compact Malden has. OK may be something like a [3]Holborn Zip might be a better compromise for me. But I have the Cuban Zip in the cupboard.

The thing that has always annoyed me about using the Cuban Zip has been its inability to lay flat in normal daily use. So I thought I had to do something about this. Could I get it to lay flat for long enough in normal use.

So the first thing I did was to give the leather some care cream treatment and some wax cleaner on the inside and out, not that it was dirty, but to just 'feed' the leather, I paid particular attention to the spine where the leather is going to hinge when opening and closing.

I also thought that I had to train this binder gently, like you do an athlete, you can't be a couch potato for 20 years and then expect to run a 4 minute mile after you have just been to the sports gear shop for some new running shorts... <scary image> !

So to start with the binder when open would sit at about 100 degrees in it's relaxed state, not the flat 180 degrees we all aim for. Pick up my full A5 Malden and it flops to 270 degrees with no effort! The Personal Malden about 200 degrees ok with a few lumps and bumps... So there was some work to do on the Cuban.

I continued to flex the binder to the 180 degree opening and a little beyond that gradually. But I also took care to apply some more leather care balm to the spine to ensure there was no cracking of the leather.

This continued over a few days until I could get it all the way back to 360 degrees [gulp] After it had been flexed to this point it then would lay flat.

Take a look at the video to see the end result....

IFRAME: [4]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/w13qVqO1kiI?rel=0>

The key lesson is to only do this sort of thing after you have applied plenty of leather care balm to the spine to ensure that the leather doesn't crack as you flex the organiser. Also don't try to rush it, gradually flex the leather over a few days, reapplying the leather care balm each day.

And naturally I will not be held responsible for any damage you might cause to your own Filofax organiser training it.....

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/cuban-zip-review.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/06/filofax-malden-compact-zipped-organiser.html>

3. <http://tidd.ly/181472fb>

4. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/w13qVq01kiI?rel=0>

JasJan (2012-10-28 03:42:11)

I managed to do the same with mine, though I have a slight ring issue and am now scared of flexing it too much in fear of making it worse.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-28 05:35:55)

Steve - did you have any problems with it affecting the rings? My Holborn pulls the rings apart slightly when try get it to open properly - it looks like it is the design, but not sure if conditioning the leather would help.

Steve Morton (2012-10-28 06:00:36)

No, I've not had any issues with the rings, but the design of the Cuban is different to the Holborn, it's a lot squarer around the spine area compared to the Holborn.

I think the stiffness in the Cuban and it's apparent 'memory' is due to some sort of internal stiffening which might be plastic. Without undoing the stitching there's no way of knowing. But having treated the leather it does seem more willing to stay open now!

Neil (2012-10-28 08:48:22)

Many thanks for another interesting post, Steve. With regards to the internal stiffening, if you're not sure then I bet a lot of your readers won't be sure either.

So, I'm wondering whether it might be worth showing people who've always been curious as to just exactly how a modern day filofax is made, by cutting a binder up and posting some pics.

Steve Morton (2012-10-28 08:50:46)

[gulp] the very thought of doing that makes me shudder!! But if I did have one that I would be willing to sacrifice, then yes I would put one under the knife!

Neil (2012-10-28 09:28:59)

No probs, Steve. I bought a Finsbury in this year's January sale and I'm not using it at the moment, so I will dissect it with my trusty swiss army knife and post the dastardly act on Youtube next weekend. I'll call it "filofax dissection", so it should be easy to find.

Anita (2012-10-28 13:05:53)

Thanks for a useful post, Steve :)

Neil - I think I could only do this if a filofax was completely trashed beyond repair, but that will be fascinating!

austinlinda (2012-10-28 17:34:35)

Steve-thank you for another great post. I was especially interested in your topic, as I also have spent time trying to train my own Cuban Zip.

When I bought the Cuban Zip, I assumed it would never stay open, no matter how much careful training it received. But after a few weeks of use, I saw some slow changes, and I discovered that if I was careful, it might just stay open more than it did in the beginning.

I didn't have leather balm, but I was very careful not to just bend it. I put a few other Filofaxes on each side when it was on a flat surface-face up. There was far less pressure applied to the leather by applying weight face up. I did this for five days, each day for a few hours until the fifth day I held it there for 6 hours.

After 5 days, I can say that it will stay open if I hold it in my hands. On a flat surface, it stays open almost all the way flat. I think if I keep using it, it will eventually open completely flat upon unzipping. That's good enough for me.

Cheryl (2012-10-28 19:10:35)

Dissecting the Filofax...hmmmm, timing couldn't be better for this gruesome act during Halloween week. Look forward to the end results.

Cheryl (2012-10-28 19:12:25)

I've been trying to train my compact Chameleon to lay flat but when I press it open too far the rings start opening so I've given up. Its not bugging me too much that it doesn't lie flat since my others do. Great post.

Beth L. (2012-10-29 16:52:57)

I'm wondering if I had damaged a mini Filo I bought. Brand new, open it up to place things into it and the leather cracked. Like there was a clear coating on it :(I had NO idea that could happen because I have a Finsbury and nothing of this sort happened to it.

Shabby Vintage Junk (2012-10-30 03:41:32)

O.M.G Steve you are my HERO....Ever since I bought my A5 Cuban Zip (brand new NEVER USED for AU \$25.00 at the market) the seeming inflexibility of the leather has driven me NUTS....I will give this a try & let you know how it goes....FINGERS CROSSED....**wink**!!!

Cheers,

Tamarah :o)

Reader Under The Spotlight - Laura (2012-10-29 00:00) - Steve Morton

This week I would like to introduce you to Laura, who blogs over at [1]jagged little thoughts



[2]

Hi, I'm Laura and I have just turned 24 years old. I studied textiles at college and enjoy drawing, painting and writing songs in my spare time; I play guitar as well.

When I was little I was so messy, but once I became a teenager I tidied and organised my room every few days. My mum used to hate me rearranging the furniture in my room every few weeks!

I have always been into organisation, believing everything should have a place and that I should know where that place is!

I have always loved stationery; my favourite shop when I was younger was WH Smiths. I used to collect notebooks (I still have so many)... I now use them for jotting down pieces of writing and song lyrics.

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

I bought my first Filofax when I was about 16, it was a black Pocket Identity. I liked the idea of having a diary I could carry around with me, and I thought I was all grown up and professional! I don't think I used it for very long though as I didn't really have much to write in it!

2. What other brands have you used or considered using? I really like the Paperchase organisers, but I think I would get bored very quickly of the bright colours and designs. Although I love design and pattern, and lovely colours, sometimes plain and simple is the way to go. I make a lot of my own inserts and dividers now, so that everything is tailored exactly how I like it.

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

My favourite would have to be my recently received Personal Domino in Grape. I love the colour (I bought it after my raspberry Finsbury started decaying *sad face*). The colour is really lovely, it's simple, and it seems to hold so much, with enough room to turn the pages. Also my Frixion pen fits smoothly into the pen loop, unlike the Finsbury where I kept pulling the lid off trying to get it out of the loop.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I currently own 4 Filofax; 2 Pocket Dominos (one in chocolate and one in lavender), a Personal Domino in grape and a Personal Chameleon in Aqua, which Filofax sent me as a replacement for the Finsbury. I don't think I'll ever get on with it though, it's just not purple!

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I only use one Filofax at a time. I was using the lavender Domino (Pocket) but it was far too small for me. It was light and easy to carry, but too small. I upgraded to a Personal, and this holds literally everything in my brain! Diary, meal plans, emergency recipes, coupons, special dates, birthday and Christmas lists, ideas for new songs, settings for my guitar amp, notes, tracking my spending.... I could go on!

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

I like the fact that I can move the pages around, and that I can make my own inserts and choose the diary layout that works the best for the way I live.

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

Well... it would have to be purple! But it would be nice to have some more designs like the Songbird and Swift that are a little bit quirky. Maybe a 'Design Your Own' where you can choose a texture, e.g. Chameleon, Osterley, Domino... and then pick the colour. Also I would have a photo slot in the front, because I like photos!

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

It comes with me to work every day in my handbag. Since I got a Domino to replace my Finsbury, the Domino is much lighter (even though there's more stuff in it!), but because I drive to work, I leave my Domino in my car in the driver's side cubby hole. I don't really need it in the office; I tend to remember things on my lunch break, so it's really handy if I have a brain wave! At weekends the meal planner page goes food shopping with me, but my Filo usually stays on the coffee table at home within easy reach.

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

I really love the look of the Personal Purple Malden but three things put me off... The way the leather looks like it crumples over time where you fold open the front cover, the price, and the fact that it is like gold dust to try and get hold of! Apart from that, nothing else really appeals to me.

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

I've never spent more than £30 on a Filofax because I change my mind so often and don't have much expendable income. The Pocket Dominos were both on sale at WHSmith, and my Finsbury and Domino were both from eBay.

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

The community spirit! And also it gives me something to sit down and concentrate on, and read through the web finds every Tuesday after work and every Saturday afternoon with a cup of tea.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

Internet Explorer is worn out from opening so many tabs on Tuesdays and Saturdays!*[Firefox?]*

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

The Civil Wars album, Barton Hollow. Excellent band, got their CD for my birthday and it's excellent cooking music!

Thank you Laura for agreeing to go under our spotlight. If you would like to be a future Reader Under The Spotlight, please contact us at: philofaxy [at] gmail [dot] com

1. <http://jaggedlittlthoughts.blogspot.co.uk/>

2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-6BQQYsfCB_E/UII3Zn393iI/AAAAAAAAANu8/mdY8FK7cVMs/s1600/644540_10151406136057995_118171327_n.jpg

Alison Reeves (2012-10-29 06:23:20)

Its good to meet your Laura and nice to see your appreciation for the Domino. I have had much more expensive binders and keep coming back to my Bronze Snakeskin Domino. They are light and capacious aren't they? They also seem to stand up to a good deal of wear and tear.

Lily (2012-10-29 08:53:37)

Yes, some people have weight issues with Filos - the Dominos are lovely and light - Filofax ought to bring out more luxury Dominos like the Sake. They'd sell so well.

neonlicht (2012-10-29 10:07:15)

I used to think Dominos were ugly. I bought an extremely cheap used mini Domino in violet (purple, really) from Ebay, which has become my favorite Filofax. I have it with me at home all the time, and I use it to take notes. It's very cool and light, and it holds a lot, including an English vocabulary and expressions section which is growing really fast. I guess the English section will need upgrading soon to its own binder, probably a personal (maybe A5) Domino? :-)

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-29 11:52:38)

Yes, Donimo does seem to be one of the forgotten filos, but I wouldn't want to use it as a wallet, as a straight forward filo perfect.

laura jane (2012-10-29 17:41:05)

Hi Alison, totally agree with you! In my opinion the Domino is one of the best. Affordable and definitely does the job it should, and the capacity is just epic!

Free For All Tuesday No. 91 (2012-10-30 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

My first thoughts today are with our friends and readers in North East USA who at the time that this post goes live will be in the middle of the big storm. I'm sure you will all join me in hoping that everyone and their friends and families will be safe and unharmed.

But as usual Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have. So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypHOYfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

Cheryl (2012-10-30 00:52:57)

Just for some perspective...I'm in Michigan, 750 miles away from relatives in Rhode Island who are experiencing storm surge but not as bad as New York and New Jersey. At 750 miles from the Atlantic Ocean, we in Michigan are experiencing very high winds, power outages, rain and up to 25 foot waves on the Great Lakes. (I'm an hour from a Great Lake so no flooding here). Earlier today people were surfing in 12-15 ft waves on Lake Michigan and Lake Erie (a sport usually reserved for the ocean, not fresh water lakes!).

As Steve mentioned, our thoughts are with those on the Eastern Seaboard...3,000,000 people are without power in and around NY, lives have already been lost and flooding/damage is incredible and the worst is yet to come over the next few hours.

ArtJournal88 (2012-10-30 01:46:19)

Is anyone out there who uses a filofax for doing NaNoWriMo?

I'm really excited and looking forward to it, and I would love to use one of my Filofaxes for, I don't know, planning, note taking?

Currently I am lacking ideas, so I would love to read from other nanoists or filofax owners who take part in NaNoWriMo.

Shabby Vintage Junk (2012-10-30 03:32:39)

I hope Emergency Services are able to cope quickly & bring comfort to those effected Cheryl....I can't imagine how awful this must be....!

Cheers from 'Down Under',

Tamarah

industrious housewife (2012-10-30 04:02:41)

I'd love to hear some ideas. I'd love to use a filo for Nano. I'd need to buy a new filo then probably... ;-)

Lily (2012-10-30 05:15:22)

Is the Stormageddon also affecting SE Canada?

Marcus Myles (2012-10-30 05:38:12)

I am back in the UK for 24 hours next month and will have around 4 hours to kill in London. I was going to use this time to go to one of the Filofax Shops and compare some binders. In order to maximise my time, is any one of the shops better than the other?

Having used a combination of Pocket and A5 for the past few years, I am finding the pocket diary just a little bit too small. I am therefore looking at the compact, which according to the specs on the Filofax website, is no fatter than a pocket, just taller. I would prefer to see them 'in the flesh' first however.

Thanks

Marcus

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 05:42:26)

Marcus

We highly recommend a visit to City Organiser in Bow Lane near to St Paul's they carry the full range, don't be deceived by what you see in the shop because they have a huge stock room in the basement!

Steve

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-30 05:45:18)

Me! I'm using one :) I have general and character notes, plans and outlines, a calendar to track my word-counts, and if I get any chance to work away from a computer, there just might be some NaNoing in there too :)

skybluepinkish (2012-10-30 05:51:35)

I have developed a sudden and acute desire for a red congo personal mulberry ... apart from ebay are there any other good places to look. I know that there is a for sale and wanted section here which I shall stalk :)

Gillie

Ms BOB (2012-10-30 06:04:58)

Anyone know if one could fit a Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 into the A5 Malden Zip? I know it is made for Ipad and the dimensions are slightly different but I keep wondering if it could fit....

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 06:08:51)

I'm following the news and thinking of friends in the US. Don't take any chances and stay safe!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-30 06:10:08)

Has anyone made a cover/case to keep their filofax in e.g. for when they are out and about, to protect it? I remember a blog post about one, but I can't find it. I am going to make one out of felt and neoprene (from a laptop sleeve), and I will use this to carry my filofax in when it's raining and I'm out, because I want to carry my filo in my hand, but I need to protect it from the rain!

industrious housewife (2012-10-30 06:19:43)

Ooh! What size? And what model, pen?

industrious housewife (2012-10-30 06:28:01)

What are people's thoughts on the canvas covered binders?

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-30 06:32:11)

Well, I have two in planning, an original fiction which was to be my NaNo but which I have decided will have to wait until Camp, since it needs lots more planning, and a fanfic which I will be writing.

The original fic is at the moment in an A5 red chameleon, but if I can find an A5 ochre malden without ring issues at a decent price, it would be utterly perfect for the story. The pen for that is an Amber TWSBI 540, EF nib, with Diamine Ancient Copper ink.

The fanfic is being planned in an A5 Aqua Finsbury, which I love for its fun vibe. At the moment it doesn't have a dedicated pen and ink combination that matches the story as the original fic does, but it might well do, and in the meantime, it's definitely a Black TWSBI 540 EF with Noodler's Heart Of Darkness.

And yes, I do have a *huge* love of TWSBI 540s, and yes, I *do* have one in each of the 5 colours :D

Doris (2012-10-30 06:34:55)

I find the designs cheerful and cute (Swift, Songbird) but am always afraid it'd get grimy over time. I had a Sport and it did get very dirty and was hard to clean. I don't know about the insides though - if they're made of suede or fabric. I'm guessing fabric.

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 06:42:29)

I thought I had the perfect solution for you a Netbook neoprene case, but for an A5 it's long enough but not wide enough. This is for a 10" Netbook. I'm sure if you can find a 12/13" notebook one that will fit and will save your fingers because stitching that sort of material is hard work!

Let me know what you manage to find because this is of interest to me too....

Steve

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-30 07:03:03)

Thanks Steve, I've thought of a netbook cover already, and keeping the stitching together instead of pulling it apart is a really good idea, thanks! It's for a personal sized filo, so I reckon a 10 inch one might be ok- although I'd need to check. I'll do a blog post once I've made the case :)

Anita (2012-10-30 07:07:53)

Thomas has made a cover out of felt which he had his personal Hamilton in at the meet up.

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 07:24:10)

A 10 inch cover fits a personal with lots of space around it. There are some 8 inch netbooks (EEPC) so if you can find a sleeve for one of those that might work better.

<http://tinyurl.com/8chax4q>

And yes Thomas's cover is really good. <http://tommess.net/?p=801>

Ro (2012-10-30 07:27:10)

Cheryl, where in MI? I am from the thumb area, but live in SE MI now...

Having lived thru a couple of category 2 hurricanes while living in FL, I know how much it sucks right now, waiting for the howling wind to stop, waiting to assess the damage, waiting to hear how friends and loved ones

have weathered the storm. Hurricanes don't end when the winds die down and the rain stops. My thoughts are with our friends in the path of the storm.

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 07:31:05)

Sorry a better link for Amazon

http://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=a9_sc_1?rh=i_%3Aaps_%2Ck_%3A8+inch+neoprene+sleeve&keywords=8+inch+neoprene+sleeve&ie=UTF8&qid=1351596221

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-30 07:42:51)

Steve and Anita- Thanks SO much for the link to Thomas' blog! This is exactly the one I was thinking of, but couldn't find!! And there's a manual to make it! You guys are awesome! :D

industrious housewife (2012-10-30 07:47:47)

Sounds lovely!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-30 07:59:37)

Does anyone know if felt made from recycled plastic bottles is waterproof? That would be brilliant for making my filofax case!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-30 08:06:23)

They make a surprisingly alot out of plastic bottles including insulation.. I have made covers for my files but not necessarily to make them waterproof, but I do suggest velcro as a good closure sytem..

Butanben (2012-10-30 08:09:29)

Remembering "the big storm" here over 20 years ago now, I can imagine how scary and devastating this must all be for the folks in the Eastern USA. Our storm was nothing like as bad and awful as this one, but I remember part of my roof blowing off and after the hurricane had died down, standing in the street seeing a flapping roof and a huge hole!!! It was, luckily soon put right.... but the shock of seeing it was just so awful and I've never forgotten it!! So I really, really do feel for you all, even though my damage was small in comparison to what is happening in the US. The only good to come out of the bad is the true holding to the preciousness of life itself and the preciousness of our friends and loved ones. It is still mightily harsh to live through though and to deal with. I send you all my love and prayers today and over the coming weeks. xxx

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 08:14:05)

Nikwax sell lots of waterproofing and cleaning products that might do the job.

It was a local company to me when I lived in UK, I've used their products a lot for keeping Goretex jackets and clothing waterproof. The best bit is you just put it in to your washing machine!

<http://www.nikwax.com/en-gb/productselector/productselectorV2.php>

Butanben (2012-10-30 08:18:15)

I have got a "Built" netbook and DVD Portfolio, bought in TK Maxx. It has carry handles and a strap...and a very handy front pocket for pens etc. Fits well into my briefcase, as not thick. The material is in a stretchy Lycra and so easily fits my Cuban A5 with smaller rings.... it also fitted my larger ringer Finsbury, but that was tighter. Lovely bright colours available too!!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-30 08:29:43)

Hi Butanben, I use a Built NY netbook bag for my A5 too!! They are brilliant!

Butanben (2012-10-30 08:30:37)

PS- I have just looked on Amazon and they have got a brown polka dot one... also E. Bay has the same one I've got, in maritime blue..... matches my ink A5 Cuban perfectly. Bonus is that it will take A5 or personal size, so lovely when I feel like a planner changeabout. Think it may be just a tad too tight a fit for an A5 zipped Filofax

though for those folks who have those. xx

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-30 08:32:26)

I have just noticed the bottom rivet of the ring mechanism in my wine Holborn is not fixed properly! I am going to send a picture to Filofax... this is getting ridiculous now!! I would accept a replacement, but I can't guarantee that it is going to be good quality! I wish I could get to a Filofax shop, but I won't be going to London any time soon... :(

Hamish MacBear (2012-10-30 08:34:40)

I always use my Filofaxes for planning and consider myself well-organised. However, almost everyone I meet says they don't need a paper diary because they keep their diaries on their phones.

Last weekend was blighted by some of these same people - my Saturday plans were changed without notice because the arrangement had been forgotten, and my Sunday plans were cancelled at short notice by another. Which raises the question, why be organised if everyone else around you is disorganised?

Apart from the fact that I just couldn't be that disorganised (or discourteous), I am amazed at how oblivious these people are to the chaos and distress they cause.

Does anyone else have this problem? Are you the one who remembers everyone's birthdays, remind people of events that are coming up, plan holidays, turn up at meetings at work to find they have been cancelled and no-one bothered to inform anyone....? Is it my imagination or are people more accepting of other people's lack of organisation these days - people turning up late or not at all for work, for meetings, for appointments, etc?

Butanben (2012-10-30 08:38:04)

Yes.... I am finding mine rather brilliant!!! I love the fact that you have made the same useful discovery Kate!!

Prachi (2012-10-30 09:09:31)

A quick question to the DPP users out there. How do you maintain an overview of the week? I recently had a major Planner Fail with my DPP because I couldn't keep track of my week's overview...please help! Thanks x

industrious housewife (2012-10-30 09:37:05)

I can't see it would be much different from any other synthetic felt. I'm surprised the synthetic felt *is* waterproof, if Thomas has found it to be so.

Wool is very water resistant, it's used to make cloth nappy covers instead of plastic/PUL pants.

You could knit a filo cover and then felt it. :-)

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 09:38:55)

This is so frustrating, and I understand where you are coming from.

On the work front I have now taken to emailing or calling to confirm meetings / appointments.

On the personal front we have certain family members who continually forget birthdays, then say 'well it doesn't really matter does it?' - we actually yes it does! I don't mind not getting a present (especially as times are tough at the moment) but a birthday card means a lot (or even a text to say we are being thought about). Unfortunately I am unable to purposely 'forget' theirs in return.

Anyhow - I think we are what we are and if we like to be organised there is no way we can operate any other way.

industrious housewife (2012-10-30 09:39:24)

Yes, I've been lusting after a Swift since I first saw one, but the older canvas binders that come up on ebay that have been used, like the Eden, always look grubby.

Not sure how long they take to get like that if you see what I mean. If it was a stay home binder for something or other, it might not get too grubby?

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 09:39:49)

This is an issue I have had whenever I've used DPP - the only way around it for me is to use two views - either a month to view or a week to view which gives me that perspective.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 09:40:26)

Jane - an 'ink' coloured A5 sounds really lush! I love Navy Blue!

industrious housewife (2012-10-30 09:41:14)

Right, I had resigned myself to putting the Pocket amber Metropol I bought on a whim earlier in the year onto the ebay pile, but I shall use it keep Nano notes in.

If I 'win' NaNoWriMo I shall reward myself with a new filofax. Now there's an incentive!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 09:43:07)

Is anyone else challenged when it comes to cutting A4 into personal size paper? I've even resorted to printing a very light grid to show cutting lines, and have used both a ruler and my rotary cutter and a mini guillotine, but they never come out just right! I know my sizing is correct - I think it is my technique! I may well resort to buying the blank sheets, but was trying to use up some paper I already had.

Does anyone have any tips - or any suggestions as to better low cost implements?

Paul Taylor (2012-10-30 09:47:28)

It can be incredibly frustrating and I know exactly where you're coming from. On a personal basis my partner can be a bit like that - even though I send meeting requests for joint things, there are still occasions where I am ready to go and my other half is still faffing... which I find incredibly stressful.

At work, we have a name for persistent lateness to meetings: 'Acorn time' - as in 'I see we're having this technical review on Acorn time again?'. So named because one project - called Acorn - seems to regard respect for others' time as completely optional. One very senior guy who shall remain nameless frequently requests urgent meetings at 30 mins notice, reshuffles things at the last minute and regularly arrives for meetings 15 minutes late - and then nitpicks such that the meeting overruns by 50 % of its allotted time for no good reason. All of this has huge knock-on effects on other people's productivity but it's very difficult to tell someone so senior to stop wasting everyone's time!

In an ideal world the motto 'Your lack of organisation does not create an emergency for me' should apply, but sadly the world is rarely ideal...

Tiny Soprano (2012-10-30 09:51:50)

I use Muji's bag organiser in B5 size as a protector for my A5 FF.

<http://www.muji.eu/pages/online.asp?V=1 &Sec=5 &Sub=21 &PID=4528>

It can hold a selection of colour pens and a post it pad or two!

Hamish MacBear (2012-10-30 10:18:35)

I use both views - the front of my diary contains Week on 2 Pagesv View for the whole year, and the back of my diary is DPP for a month or so in advance. That gives me the best of both worlds.

The Week on 2 pages view is updated as far in advance as possible using Frixion pens, and the daily diary is updated each week as required.

It works for me.

Cheryl (2012-10-30 11:44:53)

Oh great resources! Love that Muji bag and the Built DVD bag with the strap and front pocket. Glad payday is Nov. 1st!!!

Cheryl (2012-10-30 11:50:10)

Ro - I'm in Romeo, Michigan (northern Macomb county). North of Utica/Shelby; east of Rochester. So glad to hear of others from MI!

They are saying this is the worst storm they have ever scene on the East coast. Flooding, power outages, thousands of people displaced from their homes. The boardwalk in NJ swept out to sea. Two feet of snow in West Virginia. 30 homes on fire in Queens, NY. Millions without power. The good news: limited loss of lives, very few actually! Thankfully they had plenty of warning and evacuated thousands of people. Of course, there are those that chose to stay and wait it out and are being rescued now. Long recovery ahead. Still having high winds in MI...no power

outages where I live though. Our washing machine flooded part of our basement last night and I was put out at the inconvenience until I put things in perspective and realized what others are going through.

natalie (2012-10-30 11:54:19)

Are you using a green olfa type mat and a quilting ruler?

Maybe the stiff plastic used to make patchwork templates would do the trick?

Cheryl (2012-10-30 11:55:19)

I was just thinking about ordering a black or brown Holborn but I keep hearing about ring issues. It seems when I hear of ring issues it has to do with either the wine Holborn or the zipped wine Holborn. Does anyone know if the ring problems are with ALL Holborns or just the wine ones for whatever reason?

natalie (2012-10-30 11:56:03)

Or buy a charity shop woollen sweater, deliberately felt it and then just cut and seam. It won't ravel so a simple stitch would do the trick.

Anita (2012-10-30 11:56:14)

I try my best not to find this frustrating, especially if people may fun of me for having a filo but they're always late or keep forgetting things. It does bug me a bit when some one says that I should have reminded them!

I've also started texting customers to remind them of their appointments. My dentist does this service as well now & I think it's more common for some kind of reminder call these days.

Cheryl (2012-10-30 11:59:45)

Paul-you just reiterated my favorite all time quote! Worked with people in the past just like that. Frustrating! We referred to one as a 'seagull' who swept in (at the last minute), dumped, and then flew away, leaving chaos for others to clean up. Boy does that take a hit on your organization and time. I had to chuckle at these thread. These are major pet peeves of mine!

natalie (2012-10-30 12:00:29)

In Germany I saw "official" FF paper but with longer holes rather than round ones.

Why?

Would these slide about in my FF instead of staying in alignment with other paper?

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-30 12:02:04)

I ordered a personal Malden in August. I haven't used it much and it has ring issues. It started with one and now it's three. I emailed FilofaxUSA yesterday and they said to call them on Wednesday (closed Tuesday because of the hurricane) and they would explain options. Really disappointed.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-30 12:04:22)

Had to laugh because I feel the exact same way! People tell me they don't need a paper planner and make fun of me (in a friendly way) and then proceed to forget things and rely on me to remind them. If your digital planner doesn't help you remember things, could it be that it really isn't working!

My family members tell me all the time to remind them of things. I will remind my husband but everyone else I tell that I'm not their secretary.

Of course, that brings up another issue in that "your lack of planning does not create an emergency for me". Only it does!

Patty

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-30 12:05:07)

Ok Hamish...it's not the system there using it's the user. Don't you find it is fashionable to be busy these days, everyones so busy these days...they have so much to do...Hello...really...theres the same amount of time as we did ten years ago.. I think some people use the excuse of forgetting because they were given a better option, or they

don't feel like it. A big problem with any system is when couples or families don't synchronise diaries or at least have a control calendar. There will always be a section of society which doesn't seem to think social niceties apply to them...Paul Taylor regarding senior management that's just plain rude and they know it and some would say a form of bullying

Dotty Miss (2012-10-30 12:06:06)

I am the same- my other half mocks me for needing to have a 'plan of action' but I just can't cope with going with the flow and seeing what will happen. My Filofax is essential for this and I would hate the idea of letting people down by forgetting something or double booking.

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-30 12:06:33)

Alison Reeves maybe you should write down do not send...

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-10-30 12:08:45)

Has anyone struggled with this issue? Your planning system really isn't working and hasn't for a long time and you know what you need to do but you don't want to do it? So you try desperately to make your current system work. I know I need to switch to Classic size (A5) but I have been using FC Compact for 20+ years and I like the size. Only I don't like the size. I need more room and I need a different format (my homemade pages designed for my life). But I keep going back to the compact. It's like I can't switch but I know I need to. When I use the Classic homemade format I'm much more creative; I feel more in control; I have a great grasp of what's going on. But I keep going back to a system that doesn't work. WHY????? Why would I do that?

Patty

Dotty Miss (2012-10-30 12:09:13)

I am having that age old debate with myself that I see so many people on blogs debate- which size to use! I have my lovely Personal Finsbury in Raspberry but sometimes it is just too small and gets on my nerves. But my A5 Finsbury and Pennybridge are just too big sometimes because I carry so much round in my handbag! I have tried going between the two but it didn't work and I ended up becoming disorganised!

Beth L. (2012-10-30 12:24:59)

Does Filofax repair leather or replace a bad filo? And what about if it were bought on ebay? I'm completely new to all of this filofax stuff and have no idea where to go. Just super glad I can come here and ask questions :D

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 12:31:36)

There might be a couple of round holes as well as the slotted holes to locate the pages on the rings. But if it is just the slotted holes then these will fit the three rings in one slot and they should not move around.

There might be additional holes this is so that the paper will fit different sizes of Filofax organiser.

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 12:33:46)

Generally they replace them. Not sure about ones purchased off of Ebay though... how old is it?

But here is the information we have on returns:

More recently we have seen this information about returns:

Would you please send the organiser back to the FREEPOST (free of charge) address shown on the despatch note that would have been included with your order.

Filofax UK Returns

c/o Charles Letts & Co Ltd

FREEPOST RSXH-CCAY-HBAL

Dalkeith

EH22 2NE

Please remove all personal papers and belongings and also include a daytime delivery address and telephone number. If you would like to contact them direct the number is 08705 143 702

I would advise ringing that number first before you go to all the effort and expense of packaging it up.

Steve

skybluepinkish (2012-10-30 12:34:44)

I'm off to Paris for a few days. Are there any good little filofax or even big filofax shops I might try out? Re my earlier post. I think I have fallen in love with an Osterly instead....

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 12:37:49)

Before I forget - does anyone have a good idea for using up old blank diary pages? I've thrown them away in the past, but it seems as awful waste and I'm trying to be more frugal these days! I guess I could use them for shopping lists etc. Does anyone else use them up or do you toss them?

skybluepinkish (2012-10-30 12:37:51)

I had a pocket for years but it was just too small and I had so many other notebooks that I needed as well that I went to the other extremem and got a non ring binder planner (shush!) which was super except it wasn't a ring binder. I've spent much of today wading through blogs and ebay and City Organiser and have opted for personal. A5 really is too big as I am so peripatetic but I have an A4 Uncalendar in a Domino A4 folder as my daily planner which takes some pressure off the personal but doesn't come with me unless I'm going to meetings or working away from my home office.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 12:46:37)

Well, Deborah, I did send a message to one errant younger member (in their 30s!) of the family once to say that I hadn't forgotten to send their birthday card and some money, that that as we hadn't even had a card on either of our birthdays (i.e. my husband or I) that I was assuming they didn't want to partake anymore. We've both had a card on our birthdays ever since, so I guess it worked!

Also agree with your comment about busyness - I say the same myself so am guilty - but we all manage to find time for the things we really WANT to do!

Dotty Miss (2012-10-30 12:46:48)

Thanks for that! I considered using my A5 as a work one and my Personal for well...personal stuff but I I didn't like having all the information on me. Maybe I should try that again. What personal did you get in the end? Always fun shopping for a new filofax!

Dotty Miss (2012-10-30 12:47:38)

I use them for lists as you suggested and scrap paper for rough notes etc. Interested to see what others say!

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 12:49:38)

Yes I've tried that Naralie - mind you my cutting of fabric is still improving so it's probably just me! I've had another go this afternoon with my 'Personal Trimmer' i.e. the guillotine and it's improving slowly - I think it has some idiosyncrasies regarding where you cut which I am just getting used to.

Helen Conway (2012-10-30 12:55:42)

Standing behind the safety barrier of the M6 waiting for the breakdown service who will be another forty minutes. Anyone any tips for using a filo for car maintenance?!

Beth L. (2012-10-30 12:57:00)

Thank you so much! It said it was new and it has the box and everything. I had it opened less than 5 mins and the leather sort of cracked and flaked off. I'll give them a call and see what they say. I still love it, just wish that didn't happen, as it wasn't cheap :(

Prachi (2012-10-30 13:29:20)

Hmm, I'll consider that, the problem is though that I'm at school and I don't really want to be lugging all the extra pages around alongside textbooks, lever-arch files etc. I'm considering only have 2 months worth of DPP at a time and see how that goes...

M Ng (2012-10-30 13:39:58)

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-30 13:41:50)

Car break down no'sinsurance details reminders to check water levels, oil level and battery water levels check tyres ...bulb size and serial nos and others ie; window wipers sizes

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-30 13:50:58)

Alison Reeves theres busy and theres "busy" ... I like your approach regarding younger people in your family .. Also what you and I call busy and a certain section of society as busy are two totally different things. First of M NG it wasn't rambling it was very interesting, those people who live in the power bubble are also spoilt brats that never grew up because they automatically assume that Galileo got it wrong as my spelling of Galileo the world revolves round them

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 13:51:42)

Somewhere to keep your AA card?

Sorry to hear this Helen - hopefully reading all these posts will keep you occupied. Hope you have something warm to wear.

Does this mean you will be setting up a 'car' filofax?

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 13:52:25)

Also how about a list of items to jeep in the car - shovel, spare coat and blanket etc?

natalie (2012-10-30 13:54:25)

It was six slotted holes for A5 paper.

Bizarre that it was proper FF paper.

laura jane (2012-10-30 14:56:43)

I ALWAYS have this issue with our group of friends. One of them is always 30-45 minutes late to everything, even booked meals, the other is less severely late about 10-15 minutes. They're both guys though...

My boyfriend was fairly disorganised with filing his important paperwork until I decided to take on the challenge and now he calls me his secretary lol.

It's so frustrating when people don't turn up on time, especially when I'm the one who books everything, it makes me look bad!

laura jane (2012-10-30 14:59:38)

Hi, I returned my Finsbury a few weeks ago and they knew it was purchased from eBay brand new. I don't think it makes a difference as they know it's their product and they need to fix it. They sent me a brand new replacement chameleon :)

Tiny Soprano (2012-10-30 15:12:43)

I've been stalking this blog for weeks, and I'm glad to have made a contribution!

I also prefer Muji's erasable gel pens over the other brands as I think Muji is cuter and cheaper.

ArtJournal88 (2012-10-30 16:30:07)

@ Shadow Wolf: great, I own an A5 Finsbury, aqua, too :) I love the idea to choose the filo matching to the plot. I just decided to do the word count in the filofax, too, and I think I will also keep nano-notes in it.

@ industrious housewife: now I have a great excuse to buy a new filofax, as a reward :) (orange osterley? purple malden? *sigh*)

Marcus Myles (2012-10-30 16:35:03)

Thanks Steve, I will look them up. I take it they are better than the Filofax shops?

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 16:37:29)
Oh dear, hope you got recovered ok Helen

Steve Morton (2012-10-30 16:39:52)
Certainly more knowledgeable, they have been in business over 25 years, they will also be cheaper than the only Filofax shop there is now in London in Conduit Street, the Neal Street store closed some months ago, but it's still listed on the Filofax Website....
There are other retailers as well, but I don't have first hand experience of those.....

Frederique (2012-10-30 16:41:51)
Living in France, very close to Germany : as I often go to Germany, and therefore, to stationary shops in Germany (:), I confirm some/most (?) real/proper/genuine Filofax A5 refills have six "long" holes.
It is explicitly mentionned, and says "multifit" : to accomodate other brands, I guess.
I don't remember, though, which refills had this feature, but a quick look on Filofax.de might save the day; look for "multifit-Lochung" in the page below :
<http://www.filofax.de/store/diaryrefills.asp?tn=1 &control=processrequest &SizeId=5>

Frederique (2012-10-30 16:44:38)
Oops, forgot to reply to the 2nd part of your question :
No, the refill with the longer holes would NOT slide in your A5 filofax : the rings are aligned at the top of the first hole, the middle of the second and the bottom of the 3rd, or something like that.
I (briefly) had an A5 snake domino, purchased on filofax.de, and the additional refill it came with, a WO2P vertical diary with hours for 2013, had these longer holes : and the paper would stay like "normal-holed" (if that's even a word) paper.
Hope this helps.

Helen Conway (2012-10-30 16:45:55)
Have now been towed safely to a garage and collected from there by my parents who we were on the way to stay with for my Grans funeral tomorrow. She wouldbelauling as she always liked a good drama!. I was very glad of webfinds to read while I was standing in mud in the dark for forty five minutes!! Oh and the RAC card was already easily to hand in the pocket chameleon I use as a purse :)

Frederique (2012-10-30 16:51:22)
I haven't gone (yet) but next time I'm in Paris, i'll go to the Filofax Centre :
32 Rue des Francs Bourgeois
75003 Paris
<https://plus.google.com/110553750855701821744/about?gl=fr &hl=fr>
You might want and check it out, it looks like a nice start :)

skybluepinkish (2012-10-30 16:56:46)
Shush plum osterly :)

skybluepinkish (2012-10-30 16:58:25)
Thank you :)

roguexuk (2012-10-30 17:24:06)
Hi,
I had to return my brand-new one month old Vintage Pink Personal Malden last week with ring alignment issues. They were unable to repair it and I was offered a replacement.
I now have a Compact Wine Holborn which came today, and so far seem to love :)

Suzee (2012-10-30 17:24:42)
I waited patiently for my first Filofax, the Holborn personal. Received it yesterday and thought when I opened it

that it looked small.. oh they sent me the pocket Holborn.. I looked at my order on line and sure enough I was a dummy and ordered wrong.. BLAH! I was about to send it back and got to looking at it.. so soft.. and soo cute!!! I thought oh this would be perfect for a wallet with note taking..I moved all my stuffs into it and took out the address's and weekly pages.. I'm keeping the cute little thing! AND I went back and ordered the Personal Holborn LOL

I have the inserts for 2013 weekly if anyone would want them.. I won't use this other then a note taker and wallet.. I live in the states and can send anywhere.. shouldn't cost too much for paper?? Also the address tabs and inserts I wont use..any takers?

Alondra Karwowski (2012-10-30 17:32:33)

Ohh, luckily you are able to purchase another Holborn. I would of had to send it back (even with the temptation to keep and purchase another).

Alondra Karwowski (2012-10-30 17:34:12)

I use mine for list and random notes that I just want with me. I try not to throw much away. I'd rather give them away before I throw anything out. One mans trash is another mans treasure.

Suzee (2012-10-30 17:59:11)

Well it is that time of year that I gift to myself alot LOL

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-30 19:42:59)

It's my 4th NaNo, but my first using a FF for planning - and why didn't I think of it before?!? Year one, I just had some notes and an outline, year two I used a bound book, which was better but I didn't like having to make sure everything would be in the right place, and only used it after I had a set outline, not for thoughts and notes. Year three, I went back to notes alongside that same bound book, because those three years were taken up writing a trilogy. The story I'm planning in the Chameleon certainly needs a filofax of its own, even if I have abandoned it as this years NaNo project. Usually I'm not a very tactile or visual person, but my MC is, and it's making me more aware of what he would use or notice around him - and the ochre malden would fit but the chameleon doesn't. Fortunately the fanfic is a lot less fussy or I'd soon be bankrupt, but the Finsbury has the right cheerfulness (I love the colour - it's like the Mystery Machine :))

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 20:10:18)

Thanks Alondra - however I doubt anyone would want a 2007 diary! Anything current I'm always happy to give away or trade as it's good to try different formats.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-30 20:11:24)

Glad to hear you are safe and you are sorted now Helen.

Cheryl (2012-10-30 20:16:44)

Did you get the black, brown or wine? I'm about to order one. I hear the brown is gorgeous but I don't need another brown any more than I need another black. But its the only colors they come in except for the wine which I'm not crazy about.

ArtJournal88 (2012-10-31 03:30:33)

haha, you are so right, regarding the bankruptcy :) ... the aqua color is great for creating inspiration, isn't it? It's my 3rd NaNo, and until now I didn't make any plans for the novel. I hit the wordcount but the "novels" are weird texts I try not to look at again. That is the reason why I decided to plan beforehand, I am really curious if this has any effect on the quality of my novel.

Good luck for NaNo and much fun, I can hardly wait to get it started (just a few hours left) :)

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-31 07:00:51)

I would really love to know how that works for you! Due to changing what I intend to do at the last minute I only have vague ideas this year, but I'm hoping with fanfic that won't really matter too much, and any knowledge I'm

missing should be only a web-search away. Good luck to you on your novel, and if you'd like a buddy over there, you'll find me known as Scylax over there :)

Clara (2012-10-31 16:43:45)
I'd love to get the 2013 inserts!!

Anna (2012-10-31 19:34:18)
I agree about City Organiser. I visited them a couple of weeks ago and bought a Malden A5 ochre (enabled by Steve!). When I got it back home, however, I found that the first ring was faulty - it did not close tightly and the inserts were getting snagged on this. I was SO disappointed. I phoned them up and they were very sympathetic. I live a way out of London so it was a major trip to get back with the faulty Malden but I managed to get there last Tuesday. The customer service I received was superb. After I decided to hand back the Malden and replace it with a Holborn A5 zipped, the man serving me went out of his way to check that the rings were fine. He brought up the entire stock of them (about 7) up from the basement and checked each one using a magnifying glass! We found the best one which I then purchased. I also bought an A5 hole puncher. After a big disappointment I sailed home with my beautiful Holborn A5 zipped (wine) and am going to set it up now to finally finish my PhD!
I will always use City Organiser from now on: can't recommend them enough.

Anna (2012-10-31 19:40:37)
My zipped wine Holborn A5 is fine (touch wood) but we went through a number of them at the City Organiser shop to find a perfect one! It was my Malden A5 that had a faulty top ring. The man at City Organiser said he /would/ complain to Filofax - he cannot afford to spend ages with each customer painstakingly checking the rings for faults on what should be a high quality item.

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-31 21:16:01)
And now it's underway, here anyway! One hour in, following the notes I've made in my FF, and 2500 words down before bed. Hope it goes well for anyone here taking part!

Web Finds - 30 October 2012 (2012-10-30 12:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts:

1. [1]Moving my Filofaxes to higher ground.... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
2. [2]Win a filofax! - Anita Lim
3. [3]Dodo Acad-Pad Weeks Six to Nine - Lady Tamlynn
4. [4]Fixing My Planner Fail - Jagged Little Thoughts
5. [5]My Filofax Set Up! - Blunt Fringe Girl
6. [6]Filofax Personal AMAZONA! - Monica Luis
7. [7]Will I Ever Go A5? - The Storage Studio
8. [8]My first Filofax - Topaz - Monica Luis
9. [9]Louth girl sees Filofax design come to life - Louth Leader
10. [10]my filofax week #28- Paper Lovestory
11. [11]Filofax stormageddon list - The Crazy Suburban Mom
12. [12]New desk arrived :) - Filofax Love

13. [13]New designs for Filofax? - Cloudberry Musings
14. [14]Filofax prepping for 2013 Part. 1 - Behind my Purpley Life
15. [15]Filofax prepping for 2013 Part. 2 - Behind my Purpley Life
16. [16]Rebooting my Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
17. [17]Little Red Filofax - Filomaniac
18. [18]Filofax College - Week 5 - Getting out that Planner Fail - Imysworld
19. [19]Filofax vs. bound notebooks- what I'm going to do next! Part 1 - The Life of The Perpetual Student
20. [20]Filofax vs. bound notebooks- what I'm going to do next! Part 2 - The Life of The Perpetual Student
21. [21]The Search for Planner Perfection - Decision Inspired
22. [22]ostie... and pondering - Wandrrlust
23. [23]Comfy at last! - Filofax Fantasies
24. [24]Review | Filofax - Joy to The World
25. [25]behind the scenes: temperley london for filofax - fash-ling
26. [26]bare skin - Daisybutter
27. [27]A week of arranging - Just an Essex girl
28. [28]These were the months that were: September and October 2012 - My so called organised life
29. [29]my finsbury set-up and thoughts - and then she read
30. [30]New Filofax Diary Pages - jagged little thoughts
31. [31]temperley for filofax style challenge - fash-ling

And here are the latest videos

IFRAME: [32]http://www.youtube.com/embed/350WhyX_3UM?rel=0

IFRAME: [33]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/ZPPZpRCaRwE?rel=0>

1. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/moving-my-filofaxes-to-higher-ground.html>
2. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/win-filofax.html>
3. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/10/dodo-acad-pad-weeks-six-to-nine.html>
4. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/fixing-my-planner-fail.html>
5. <http://memoirsofblunfringegirl.wordpress.com/2012/10/27/my-filofax-set-up/>
6. <http://mluisblog.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-personal-amazona.html>
7. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/will-i-ever-go-a5.html>
8. <http://mluisblog.blogspot.fr/2012/10/my-first-filofax-topaz.html>
9. <http://www.louthleader.co.uk/news/local/louth-girl-sees-filofax-design-come-to-life-1-4410607>
10. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/my-filofax-week-28.html>
11. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/filofax-stormageddon-list.html>
12. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/10/28/new-desk-arrived/>
13. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/new-designs-for-filofax.html>
14. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-prepping-for-2013-part-1.html>
15. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-prepping-for-2013-part-2.html>

16. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/10/rebooting-my-filofax.html>
17. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/little-red-filofax.html>
18. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-college-week-5-getting-out-that.html>
19. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-vs-bound-notebooks-what-im.html>
20. http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/10/filofax-vs-bound-notebooks-what-im_29.html
21. <http://decisioninspired.com/?p=99>
22. <http://wandrrlust.org/2012/10/29/ostieandpondering/>
23. <http://filofaxfantasies.blogspot.fr/2012/10/comfy-at-last.html>
24. <http://joytodworld.blogspot.com/2012/10/review-filofax.html>
25. <http://www.fash-ling.com/2012/10/behind-scenes-temperley-london-for.html>
26. <http://www.daisybutter.com/2012/10/bare-skin.html>
27. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/10/a-week-of-arranging.html>
28. <http://mysocalledorganisedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/10/these-were-months-that-were-september.html>
29. <http://andthensheread.com/2012/10/29/my-finsbury-set-up-and-thoughts/>
30. <http://jaggedlittlethoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/new-filofax-diary-pages.html>
31. <http://www.fash-ling.com/2012/10/temperley-for-filofax-style-challenge.html>
32. http://www.youtube.com/embed/350WhyX_3UM?rel=0
33. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/ZPPZpRCaRwE?rel=0>

Printing Your Own Diary Inserts - Hints and Tips (2012-10-31 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Since Ray and I created our own [2]diary inserts it has been great to see the number of people that have downloaded them and who are using them is increasing each month. People mention them in blogs, we see them in pictures on blogs, we get links back to the pages as well, which is all great.

But occasionally we do get some messages from frustrated downloaders who for what ever reason just can't get the inserts to print out correctly. It is not easy via an email or message to be able to know exactly what the issue is, with millions of combinations of printers and PC set ups it would be impossible to say what the issue was instantly. But I hope to give you some of the main issues you might encounter.

- The files we provide will work on a Windows PC or a Mac or a Linux PC for the pdf files Or any type of machine that can read and print a PDF file.
- The Word files we provide will work on a Windows PC or a Mac. In fact, Ray uses a Windows PC and I use a Mac and we have never encountered any issues when we have been sending the files back and forth between us, or rather accessing them in our shared Dropbox folder.
- The diary insert Word files will not work in [3]Pages on the Mac, there are far too many formatting codes and mail merge codes for Pages to make sense of. The static files which are ordinary templates in the [4]files area should work ok, but no guarantees. I use Office 2011 for Mac to create all the templates these days.
- To print any of the pages you need a printer that can handle a variety of paper sizes with a manual feed tray if you are printing on to personal size paper. [5]This post will help you set up your pc/printer to be able to print the files on personal size paper

- If you are printing A5 pages on A4 paper, [6]this post will help you with the set up of your PC/Printer
- If your printer does not have a 'Duplex' printing facility. You will need to print first one side and then the other. The easiest way is to print all 'Odd pages' first, then put the paper stack back in the feed tray and then print all 'Even pages' You might need to experiment to make sure there are no issues with the page order, some printers print from the last page to the first page, others the other way around.
- If you are printing the PDF files do not scale the pages otherwise they will be smaller than Filofax page sizes. [7]The notes on printing here will assist you in checking and altering this setting.
- All of our designs are created to use European A4 size paper or Filofax Personal size paper. This isn't a common size in the USA/Canada, but it is available from Amazon.com and we would recommend using the right size paper rather than trying to alter the designs to use US size paper. A4 is 297 mm x 210 mm (11.69 inches x 8.27 inches) A5 is 210 mm x 148 mm. You can of course cut down 11 x 8.5 inch paper to A5 size.
- Our designs use a light grey for most of the lines, we personally found this more pleasing on the eye and matches the the sort of design detail that Filofax and other diary makers use on their designs. However, the printed page will depend on your own printer in terms of how light or dark these lines come out. If the end result isn't to your liking you might be able to vary the density of the colour from within your printer settings, but we can't give you details on how to do this.... please consult the manual or the help files that came with your printer. Alternatively you can go in to the source files and change the format of the lines and re-merge the files.
- Our designs are all created for a week starting on a Monday, we can't change this to Sunday, Saturday or any other day of the week without a major redesign of the files.
- Our Personal on A4 pages are printed at 2 pages per side because to get the right page to print on the front and rear of the page is complicated enough without the added complication of the the moving of the pages as you progress through the file. Also it doesn't save that many sheets of paper going from from 4 pages per sheet to 6 pages per sheet. Additionally not all printers will let you have margins as small as 6 mm which is what is required to be able to print 3 personal pages side by side on A4 paper.

I hope these notes help more of you use our diary inserts.

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-9QdIC3uW4hs/TzfZ01p221I/AAAAAAAAKQQ/YqQwx-hfCL8/s1600/enhancedweekview.jpg>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/diary-inserts.html>
3. <http://www.apple.com/iwork/pages/>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/01/printing-your-own-filofax-personal.html>
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/diary-inserts.html>

Jennifer Bunagan Reyes (2012-10-31 00:37:20)

Did you just read my mind? I've been trying to figure this out all night. Is there a blank template for - Personal Pages using Pre-punched A4 Filofax Computer Paper? Unfortunately my printer won't take personal sized paper, so I am trying this. Thank you.

Steve Morton (2012-10-31 04:44:21)

Hi Jennifer

I will have a go at producing a blank template, but I think I will need to also do some instructions because of the format of the sheets and the way different printers can print close to margins of the paper etc.

Give me a day or two to think about it and produce something.

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-10-31 05:51:43)

Thanks for this Steve. I've just got into printing my own and really appreciate all the hard work you and Ray have put into this. All this info goes to making it an easier and pleasant experience.

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-31 07:22:13)

second time lucky just done a post and it wouldn't let me...moving on

Amazing post will be taking notes for next years printing . It may be useful for people to know how to cancel their printing so for whatever reason it goes wrong at least they aren't losing so much paper

Suzee (2012-10-31 09:19:35)

Thank you so much.. I want to do this and have tried unsuccessfully in the past. A lot of great info!

Butanben (2012-10-31 11:39:22)

Just wanted to say.... I think you and Ray are utter stars for all the work you've put into these and how much I am enjoying using my TM a5 5 line diary,perfect format for me here. I am just so thankful to have found a wonderful new stationery and PC based hobby and such a lovely community, based here @Philofaxy!!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-31 12:25:01)

Well said Butanben..

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-31 21:18:08)

Thanks so much to you both for all your hard work and amazing ideas - you've creating amazing things, and I'm loving using them. I owe you an apology as one of those who asked for a different start day, without having any notion of what that would entail, and I want to say how grateful I am for all that you've provided. Amazing!

Seven Years Ago Today (2012-10-31 12:35) - Steve Morton



[1]

Today is our 7th birthday.... the birth of Philofaxy which came in to the world at 12:35 on 31 October 2005. Mother and baby are doing fine! I wasn't around back then, in fact I'm not sure many people would have noticed this new blog back then... but a few comments did appear on that very first post:

- [2]In the beginning

It was then closely followed by a second post on the same day:

- [3]Choosing My Weapon

Time might have moved on in the Philofaxy world but as you can see the discussions haven't changed too much... what size, which make etc etc!! Constantly seeking perfection.

We managed to get the original Philofaxer back to do a guest post to celebrate our 5th birthday, and you might like to take a read of that post too.

- [4]Guest Post - Philofaxer

Our success is down to you the readers, without any readers we would writing to ourselves.... So thank you for your continued support and appreciation.
Raise your glasses to Philofaxy.... long may it continue.....

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5XXAqqPUxZc/SxPoe6CYvfI/AAAAAAAAAH48/0-Yz8ZoLdWI/s1600/IMG_7834.JPG
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2005/10/in-beginning.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2005/10/choosing-my-weapon.html>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/guest-post-philofaxer.html>

Laurie (2012-10-31 12:39:46)
Three cheers for Philofaxy!!

Alison (2012-10-31 13:02:38)
Happy birthday Philofaxy, it's just a shame I wasn't here from the beginning but so glad I eventually found you!!! :-)

Nan (2012-10-31 13:08:18)
I can't believe it's been 7 years!

Cloudberry (2012-10-31 13:26:42)
Happy Birthday Philofaxy! Here's to the next 7 years.

Suzee (2012-10-31 13:42:37)
Happy birthday! I love reading the archives. Seems like I've been missing out on my daily planning for years but glad i found this blog.. Im finally happy with my Filofax planning..

J (2012-10-31 13:46:07)
Happy Birthday! I'm raising my bottle of water for now (boo work) but I'll raise a glass of something more celebratory tonight!

LJ (2012-10-31 14:19:34)
Happy Birthday Philofaxy!!! Here's to celebrating many more birthdays with you and your friends :-)

Petr F Fould (2012-10-31 14:19:57)
This comment has been removed by the author.

girlinmaths (2012-10-31 14:29:34)
Hooray for these seven years! I have been reading from the very beginning, even though I am not a frequent commenter. But I always enjoy the posts, and I want to thank all of you for all the work you are doing and the fun you bring into our days.

Alison Reeves (2012-10-31 14:31:00)
Happy Birthday Philofaxy - you have no idea how much pleasure you bring to so many of us!

Deborah- Jane (2012-10-31 15:17:09)
and may there be many years more- Happy Birthday

Petr F Fould (2012-10-31 15:20:52)
Hi, Congratulations on the anniversary. I'm not here for a long time but I like to dive deep into the past. So far I have four FF leather organisers - Malden's family: Ochre Mini, Grey Pocket, Ochre Personal and A5 Holborn Brown Zipped. Also thanks Philofaxy. Have a nice day.

gdigesu (2012-10-31 15:21:28)

Congrats on the 7th anniversary! A fantastic blog, with spontaneous, daily participation of a diverse, intelligent and amiable community.

Cheers!

Angela Paperlovestory (2012-10-31 15:52:01)

Happy birthday! Wonder what Filofax-ers did before Philofaxy hehe ;) x

Zelvatko Zelva (2012-10-31 16:23:04)

Happy birthday....hope there will be more than 7 years to come....

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-10-31 17:25:20)

Happy birthday to Philofaxy, Nan, Steve, Laurie, Anita, and the original Philofaxer!!

Prachi (2012-10-31 17:26:48)

Happy birthday! :)

Butanben (2012-10-31 20:25:13)

Imagine Marilyn Monroe in a slinky dress singing huskily here!!!

Happy Birthday to you,

Happy Birthday to you,

Happy Birthday Philofaxy,

Happy Birthday to you!!

Round of applause!! (and many Happy Returns!!) xxxxxxxx

Shadow Wolf (2012-10-31 21:19:13)

Three cheers, and yes, here's to many more amazing years of knowledge and friendship :)

Anke (2012-11-01 05:46:22)

Happy Birthday!

janet (2012-11-01 06:08:26)

Philofaxer used to have me in stitches with his acerbic comments.

Cheryl (2012-11-01 12:59:22)

Glad for this blog and its community; getting so many great ideas. And to the folks who maintain this a big thank you for all the work you do. Happy Birthday and many more!

1.2 November

Guest Post from Helen: Using a Filofax to plan a new website (2012-11-01 01:00) - Steve Morton

A while ago I did a post as a [1]Reader under the Spotlight and followed up with guest posts . I got some very nice comments from people wanting to read more of my posts on planning, which I let go to my head. The result was that I decided to set up a whole new site called **Plan ● Create ● Succeed** for your delight and delectation. **Plan ● Create ● Succeed** launched on 1st November 2012 and will have regular posts and features on organising, personal development, living a creative life, designing, creating food and journaling and other good stuff. I cannot top what the Philofaxy community is doing already writing about the stationery-love side of things so I thought I'd deal with the goal setting, life improving and plain fun creative reasons to use a Filofax instead. It can be found at [2]www.plancreatesucceed.com.

Easy to remember, no?!



[3]

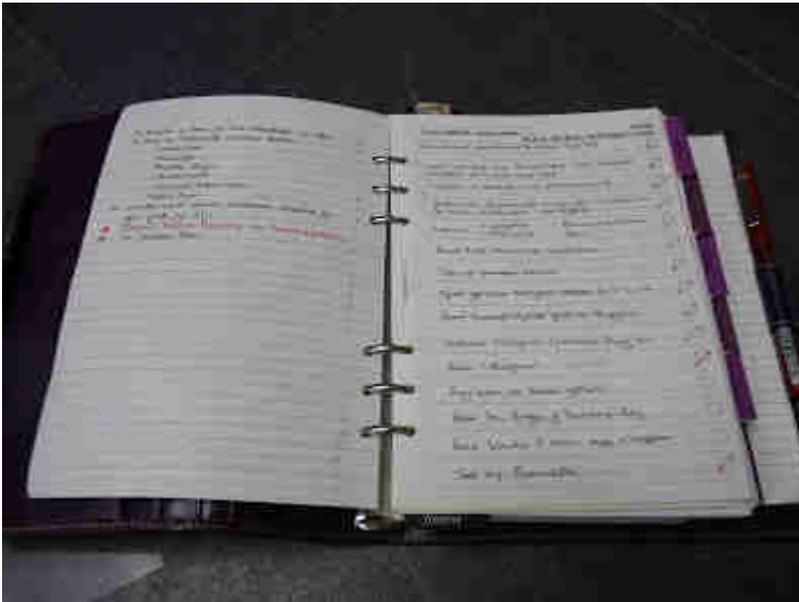
I wanted to make it professional and I felt in need for a challenging project and of course that means I needed a new Filofax. This post is, therefore, all about how I used a Chocolate Classic and then a Purple Malden to make my project happen.

The interesting thing for me was how the filo changed with the project and supported change in the project. I literally started with a Classic full of blank paper and one page with some ideas jotted down. As I expanded those ideas, I'd create sections, then the sections would grow and get divided and new tabs would be born. Moving the tabs around made me think about how the posts of the blog would be ordered and so on until eventually a structure was arrived at. The filo was literally a physical manifestation of my brain.

I wanted a Project that would give me the pleasure of learning something new so I deliberately chose a self-hosted WordPress blog because I didn't know how to do that. Research notes followed. Somewhere in the process the Classic grew too small and the Malden with its big butch rings rode in wearing a Stetson to give me a hand.

So, let's have a look see at the Malden as it ended up. This is a very functional binder so the dividers are unadorned Filofax brand. But I found that if I cut scrapbook card, folded a piece and used Pritt Stick to glue them on around the plastic tabs, they stay on, yet come off easily if, as I did, I needed to move categories around as the project changed.

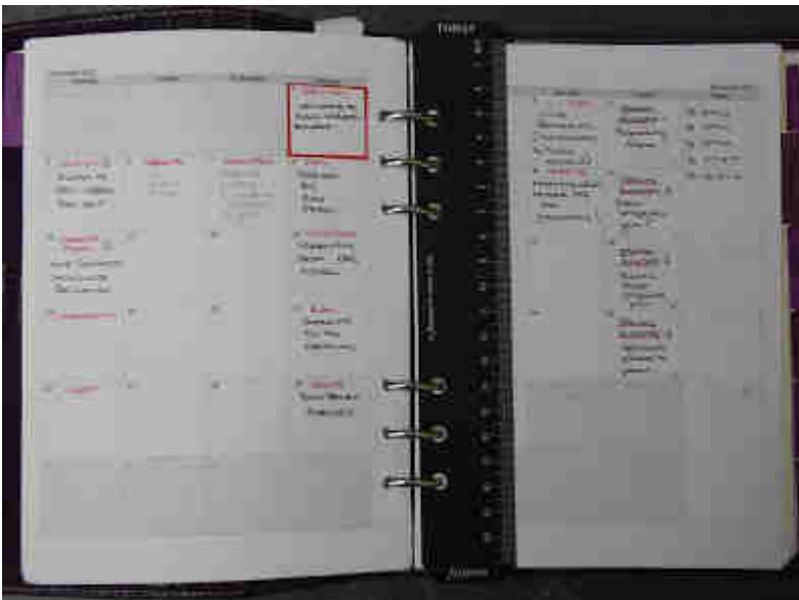
Open up and find... to do lists.



[4]

Time is an issue with this project so it's an open-up-get-straight-to-work Filofax. One project, several lists. How does that work? First, as I started to think about the new blog I realised my other blogs and website needed an overhaul in the future so they got added in. Then I was asked to set up three private blogs for the Studio Art Quilt Association ([5]www.saqa.com), one of which is a Visioning Project to assist people to reach their creative goals, and they joined the party. So, one list for each site allows me to focus on one at a time. Plus one list on pink paper to list all the technological sites, books, tools etc I come across and want to follow up with later.

Diary



[6]

Steve's inserts of course. I can be a bit flaky with my personal blog these days. Ok, I am as flaky as an Eccles cake with eczema. But, I am turning a new leaf of reliability and decided to blog on **Plan ● Create ● Succeed** to a set pattern and schedule ahead so I can write in batches but you get a regular read.

After the initial launch fortnight I will post each Thursday on Planning, Succeeding and Creating in turn. Each Sunday has a regular Salon Sunday. Yes, it's a ~~rip-off~~ inspired by Free for All days. But I hope that just as you talk paper and pens on Tuesdays and Fridays here you might like to come over and talk about the wider subjects of life planning and succeeding etc on a Sunday. Or any day after that you choose of course.

The first Monday of the Month will be a Design Monthly article. On the second Monday I will be Creating

Food, and the week after Journalling. The Fourth is for guest posts and other random stuff I might want to talk about, if I want to. (Have an idea for a guest post? Give me a shout!). And on the occasional fifth Monday, she shall rest. (To be honest she might rest on the Fourth too. She shall see!)

As you can see I have written the category of post in red. When I have a draft in progress for a specific date I note it in pencil. When it is scheduled on the blog it goes in black. The note is to remind me to post on my other blogs From Down the Well ([7]www.downthewell.blogspot.com) and Tea and Talk for Two ([8]www.teaandtalkfortwo.blogspot.com). I must be crazy to attempt so much.

Inserts

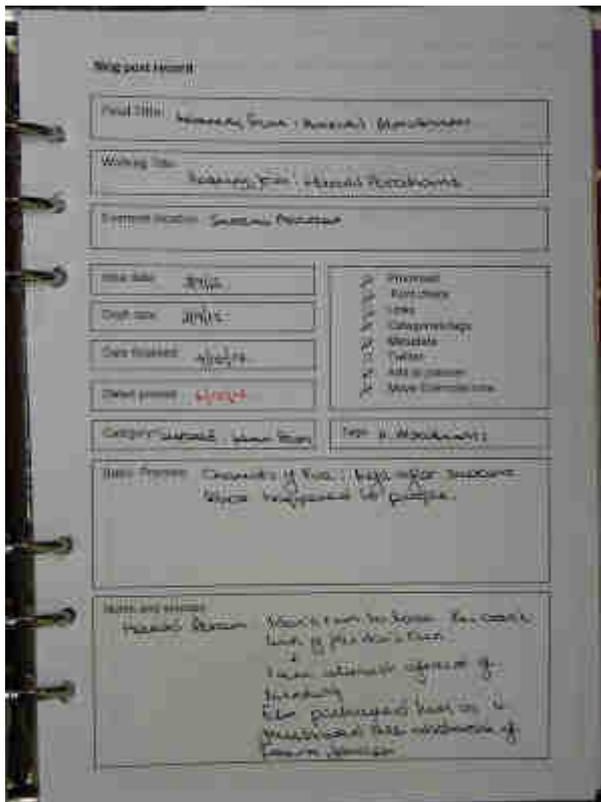
A boring section for blank paper and the inserts I made for behind other tabs...

Category tabs and Evernote



[9]

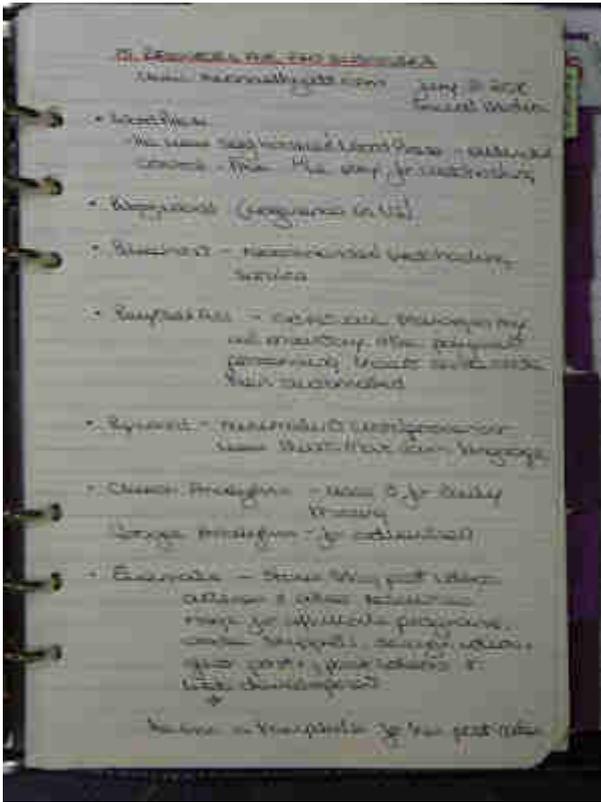
Each type of post to go on the **Plan ● Create ● Succeed** site has a tab. Behind that it s a coloured sheet with a list of ideas for posts. Then as I work up each idea I use my own template adding to it until the final scheduled date is added in red. Eventually I will move these out but there is still room at the moment.



[10]

This is working along side my Evernote system. I first tried Evernote when I first got my ipad and didn't get it, but tried again for **Plan ● Create ● Succeed** and now I think its brilliant as an adjunct to a filofax. If I see material on the web that inspires a post or a good quote or just have an idea myself I make an note in Evernote. Each category of posts has three notebooks so, for example, Create Articles, Create Drafts and Create Posted. Raw material goes in Articles. As I start to write the post it moves to drafts and then when posted goes to ... oh, you have a guess! I can work on it at work (only at lunch time of course, ahem!) on ipad and laptop and it all synchs. Brilliant. But I still need the paper planner to keep my head around it all. And to clutch to my chest for comfort when I panic.

PCS Site



[11]

In this section I have

- A mission statement to remind me what it was that excited me about this idea to read over in times where I think I have lost my marbles for wanting to do it at all
- A list of the doubts I have had and positive statements to counteract those doubts
- A list of possible site features to add later
- Lists of Wordpress themes I liked
- Notes from a variety of blogs about blogging and books about setting up websites
- Notes about how to use Wordpress, Google Analytics and other stuff new to me.

Plan ● Create ● Succeed Journal

From the very beginning I kept a diary of what work I was doing on the site, the feelings I was having about it, my hopes and aspirations and fears and the time I spent on it.

Ebooks.

A Blank section. Guess what one of my ideas for the future is?!

Other sites

I have a tab for my personal gallery website, and other blogs all of which will need attention to update or have been created while I was focusing on **Plan ● Create ● Succeed**

Accounts

It is frightening how many accounts I have had to create to achieve these goals. All of which seem to have different rules about how many letters and numbers can go in your user name and password. No way can I remember them so they are here. In code in case any kleptomaniacs are reading.

So, I hope you will pop over to [12]www.plancreatesucceed.com and see what I have going on. I very much want the site to be interactive. All you lovely people on Philofaxy are my core target audience and I hope you will meet some of my art friends in the Sunday Salon, so if you have any comments or ideas of what you would like on the site please let me know. See you over there!

Helen.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/07/reader-under-spotlight-helen.html>
2. <http://www.plancreatesucceed.com/>
3. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-GukKIsDwt5Y/UISG7WOU1EI/AAAAAAAAA0A/8ZGTEfgn3uI/s1600/Malden+cover.jpg>
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-8iixzFI_hNw/UISG-MmvPCI/AAAAAAAAA0Q/EYDn9LoVqXw/s1600/malden+to+Do.jpg
5. <http://www.saqa.com/>
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-_XFcUE0E-hc/UISG4cr30fI/AAAAAAAAANz0/fEnaZZJzXmw/s1600/Malden+Diary.jpg
7. <http://www.downthewell.blogspot.com/>
8. <http://www.teaandtalkfortwo.blogspot.com/>
9. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-cZvPhxYpDt4/UISG6DrMQeI/AAAAAAAAANz4/8zpTL8J3RMw/s1600/Malden+Tabs.jpg>
10. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-_4xw-UDawME/UISG15fnz1I/AAAAAAAAANzk/36RS5dI11kQ/s1600/Blog+post+record+%25282%2529.jpg
11. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-DA_PPQkef7c/UISG8XIhViI/AAAAAAAAANOM/AHMBRMCRIoE/s1600/malden+Notes+page.jpg
12. <http://www.plancreatesucceed.com/>

printedportal (2012-11-01 02:24:42)

Helen, just checked out your new site, can't wait to see how it develops. I love how you used your Filofax to plan it all, especially since I am doing exactly the same thing with my chocolate cross.

Helen Conway (2012-11-01 03:22:42)

What is your site that you are planning then?

Alison Reeves (2012-11-01 05:42:30)

Hi Helen - really loved this post. I am doing a lot of development on my business website - so far I have learnt Wordpress (up to a point!) and transferred my basic pages. I now have to plan and add more services specific pages, training outlines, and of course the blog. I've found it incredibly interesting to read your post as I have been trying to decide between a section in my main FF or whether to set up a separate one. I've now got much food for thought.

I've popped over to your new blog and it's looking good. It has great promise and I'm delighted that it will cover so many subjects that I am interested in!

I'm sure this project has taken a lot of thought and time!

Helen Conway (2012-11-01 05:48:01)

I gave myself about three months or so to get it up and running... Sounds a lot for a blog but all the technology was new and I wanted to schedule posts in advance too so I was confident I could keep it up. I really hope people will keep telling me what they want on a blog like this so I can keep it responsive.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-01 05:50:53)

I'll give it some thought and definitely make some suggestions.

Lime Tree (2012-11-01 14:53:59)

oh Helen, I love this post! Thanks so much for sharing!

I have way too many sub-tabs to help on my main blog tab. And that main blog tab is actually one category of a "projects" Filofax. It has totally over-grown now and sure thing I needed to read your post to realize I need to allocate a whole organizer just for my blog. Thank you SO much!

Helen Conway (2012-11-01 15:47:01)

Happy to enable you :)

Do you have a secret hankering for a particular model that can be unleashed?

printedportal (2012-11-02 02:38:25)

I just have two blogs at the moment printedportal.com and planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com which are just starting out. I hope to develop them into a proper shop, collection and resource. But it is a WIP.

I am currently tackling nanowrimo, so progress has slowed.

Cecilia Tudo (2012-11-02 03:22:33)

FYI your link to down the well has a typo in the url

kanalt (2012-11-03 07:22:03)

Wow, I feel very inadequate about my blog planning now. ;-). Just kidding, of course. I'm very amazed at people who have separate blogging sections and/or binders. I have a writing tabs, which includes blog topic ideas and journal topics, but it's just a running list of topics that get crossed off when they've been completed. When the page gets full of ideas, I rewrite the topics, leaving out the ones that have been done of course, and maybe purge ideas that I no longer like or that are no longer relevant. Also, I write down the post title on the day I do one, but other than that, I don't keep a huge section of separate binder for it. Is ish I had enough topics to do so! I'm looking forward to your new blog - it's going into google reader right away!

Steve Morton (2012-11-04 09:13:09)

Hi

Can you please be more specific, the link appears to work for me.

Thanks

Steve

Helen Conway (2012-11-05 13:19:34)

THanks!

Lime Tree (2012-11-07 14:25:01)

Hi Helen!

I have been going back-and-forth on that. I was using an A5 as well, but wasn't working too good as sometimes I need to write something "on-the-go" and didnt have it with me. I am redoing *yet again* all my systems and I will probably include it on a personal one that I take with me. I am not doing that much detailed tracking , so I *may* be able to fit it in a personal size. will see. *sight!*

I will keep you posted ;D

Jotje (2012-11-09 04:23:49)

Helen, terrific binder, terrific new website. I think it's a great idea. If I may, I would be happy to contribute to your Guest Blog feature somewhere in the future (and my post would NOT be planner-related at all! hehe).

Jotje (2012-11-09 04:29:11)

P.S. Where did you get those awesome Blogpost records from? Or did you make them yourself? Great idea!

Free For All Friday No. 207 (2012-11-02 00:00) - Anita Lim

I've been experiencing some Filofax changes recently and it occurred to me that my ideal fantasy solution could be one of the following:

- To have a local Filofax friend with a large and varied collection that I could visit to get my 'fix'
- To be able to rent a binder by signing up to a scheme (I'm sure I've heard of this for designer handbags) which means I could try out a much wider range and it appeals to my fickle side!

That at all said, I think I've finally decided on my dream team, and after a bit of tinkering and selling I will be there with simplicity being the main focus (more to come). How are you getting on? (as there seems to be a fair amount of people discussing Filofax fail recently)

And as it's Friday, please feel free to discuss anything Filofax or ring-bound planner related. Have a lovely weekend.

Paul B (2012-11-02 01:57:10)

Hi Anita, previously a couple of people have pondered on the idea of having people sign up to a group where members could exchange planners on a trial basis. I think that's a great idea and there are enough enthusiasts here to make it both worthwhile and workable. Alas, I'd be unable to take part as Dubai doesn't have what Europeans would consider a reliable and functioning postal system. As an example, it cost me more than \$50 to send an A4 piece of paper from Dubai to London. But I think it definitely could be done as an internal Philofaxy group. And while it's Friday, do any of you fountain pen using Philofaxers have any recommendations on any week on one page diary which is fountain pen friendly?

Doris (2012-11-02 03:35:00)

Both options sound good to me, if I had a friend whom I can exchange filox with, or, I lived close enough to most people in this group. Postage to me here might be prohibitive.

Suus S (2012-11-02 03:38:36)

Hello, I think this is a great idea. I live in Holland, but would love to participate in the exchange. And the cost for sending I would gladly pay it my self. Or split the cost. But great idea.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-02 06:07:44)

I'd have a problem with this idea, because if I found one I loved, I wouldn't be able to part with it! However it would be wonderful to visit a Filofax museum (I wonder if FF have kept a sample of each one they made?) much like the glass factories here in the Midlands. The used to be a Stuart Crystal museum with lots of old glass (sometimes only one of each design) and it is fascinating!

I think there is such a healthy market for second hand binders because we all change our minds from time to time about what we want to use.

Suzee (2012-11-02 06:11:41)

I am a new FF user. I'm in the States and would love to do this stateside. I only have one FF as of now and one on order stuck in transit from hurricane Sandy. I have a feeling I will be adding to my collection and would love to "try" different sizes out.

SMW (2012-11-02 06:14:11)

Hi all , am a long time reader who is just settling into my first filofax, a personal zip metropol. In my local stationary shop in Scotland I found some great repositional self adhesive filing tabs made by Stick'N for £0.99 which don't damage the paper when moving the tabs from sheet to sheet. You get 30 of the tabs in a pack which should last a good while!

<http://www.parinenterprises.com/stickn/filing-tabs.htm>

I couldn't find them online but worth checking you local stationary shop for.

Regards SMW

Helen Conway (2012-11-02 06:25:32)

I am with Alison on the not giving back problem.. its why I buy books rather than use libraries! that and I hate the plastic coverings they put on books. But I can see that it would be very useful to be able to trial a particular size out for those thinking of up and downsizing.

Dee (2012-11-02 07:00:20)

Hello everyone!

Just wondering if the Compact Malden is still being sold as I cannot find any on the Filofax site or City Organiser. I don't mind a used one either but not seeing them anywhere! Thanks!

Laurie (2012-11-02 07:00:43)

The Philofaxy Scotland meetup is only two weeks from tomorrow!! I'm so excited!!

If you haven't signed up for it yet and want to come to Edinburgh on the 17th, email us for details!

Laurie (2012-11-02 07:01:35)

SMW are you coming to Edinburgh on the 17th for the Philofaxy meetup? Steve and I will be there along with several other Philofaxers. We'll have lunch and check out some Filofax retailers there!

David Popely (2012-11-02 07:07:56)

OK, slightly off-topic, but only just.....

For some time I've favoured using Staedler pencils with a rubber on the tip for my daily Filofax maintenance - I bought a pack of these from Ryman months back for a silly (low) price, and I've been converted - mechanical pencils just don't match up to a really sharp 'old-fashioned' pencil.

However, I'm having real trouble finding a decent pencil sharpener for general use. The small, silver (or even worse, plastic - yuk) sharpeners just seem to shred the pencil and tear off the exposed graphite in the process. What I *really* hanker for is an old-fashioned, retro, rotary sharpener. Anyone over a certain age will have had these at school, and if you were *really* lucky (like me) would have got to be 'pencil monitor' and to sharpen all the pencils in the classroom.

I'm sure the rotary sharpener has long ago been outlawed by a bureaucrat with a pencil moustache and clipboard from health and safety, if not under EU Regulation 2,102,459(e), but I'd like to know if anyone has one, where they got it from, or if anyone has a 'clever alternative' to the rotary (including purchase source and rough price, please). Happy Friday!

MTMTE (2012-11-02 07:17:22)

You can find the Personal sized compacts (not pockets) on the Swedish site (filofax.se) which also posts internationally.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-02 07:43:07)

Oh David - I now have a mental image of you in short trousers as pencil monitor!

I feel your pain - especially as I use them to sharpen my eye pencils as well. I recently resorted to a cheap staples plastic one that sharpens two sizes of pencil (so it also sharpens my fat faber-castell highlighter pencils (which are also a triangle shape which is awkward). It's working fine at the moment - I think what happens is the blade gets blunt after a while so you have to buy them more frequently. If you find a better quality one that has longevity, I'd be interested!

Alison Reeves (2012-11-02 07:46:13)

Here is one http://www.amazon.co.uk/Faber-Castell-Green-Sharpening-Machine/dp/B00WL4WBK/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1351856716&sr=8-2 - in fact if you search on Amazon there are some others as well and you can read the reviews.

David Popely (2012-11-02 07:54:05)

I've been doing some reading-up. Apparently the small silver-type hand held ones are fine until they get blunt, which is generally about 5-6 uses. I've seen it written that it's almost worth buying a box-full, using them half a dozen times and throwing them away, using them as a working overhead. Obviously if you have 'fat' eye pencils or writing pencils, you need to get one of the ones with the larger hole alongside the standard one.

A Jakar rotary pencil sharpener from Staples will set you back about £28, but the good news is that you can buy replacement cutters for them at £3.99 a throw.

Battery operated and even mains operated models are available, but the thought of the potential damage to the pencils puts me off.

The Best Pencil Sharpener Ever Made is widely reckoned to be the Apsco Giant, but seems to be only available from the US, at greatly inflated shipping costs.....

Thanks for the Faber-Castell link, looks interesting. I might have a good look over the weekend. meanwhile, I expect I'll buy a couple of small hand held ones to tide me over....but half a dozen uses doesn't take long.

Yep. I was a great pencil monitor.....:)

PaperMeister (2012-11-02 08:01:12)

What's the difference in size from the personal and the compact?

Thanks!

gmax (2012-11-02 08:13:44)

I'd certainly pay a visit to a Filofax museum.

With my fondness of accumulating vintage items, I sometimes wonder whether I'll soon end up with something similar at home.

Paul Reynolds (2012-11-02 08:26:30)

Following my request last week for suggestions for a slimline or compact Filofax in a pocket size, I am now the proud owner of the smallest Filofax I've ever seen: the Guildford Extra Slim, not in pocket, but in MINI size! I am so pleased with it, and as it fits so easily into any pocket (it's about the same height as an iPhone, and just slightly wider) it may well become the most-used Filofax in my collection.

Does anyone know if this is the smallest Filofax ever produced?

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-11-02 08:45:36)

I love the idea of a Filofax swap group, but personally I don't think I would trust Royal Mail for this. Postage costs are so high, especially if you are sending the filo in the box- and without the box, I think the poor filo would get so damaged! Not to mention the possibility that the packages would get lost! But I think if Filofax did this properly with their own stock, maybe with p+p included in the price of hiring the filo for a few weeks, I would take part!

Clara (2012-11-02 10:05:14)

I know that a lot of you use those "hard" tabs s. Does anyone know where to get them online or something? Since I live in Spain and I haven't seen those here and I'd love to try them!

Thanks x

natalie (2012-11-02 10:06:36)

Another pencil user here.

The trouble though is that a pencil sharpener would not fit easily into a FF unless it's a zipped version. Back to a penknife and carefully shaved pencils, perhaps.

natalie (2012-11-02 10:09:54)

I seem to have gone from idly thinking that maybe I should start using a Filofax again, and digging out my 20 year old black leather one, to owning 2 A5s and three Personals - in a month.

Is this a record?

David Popely (2012-11-02 10:10:18)

Of course you're right - a penknife or a craft knife with a retractable (or disposable) blade.

As ever, the most low-tech solution is potentially the most effective.....

David Popely (2012-11-02 10:11:14)

That's either proactivity or carelessness....you'll need to decide which!

Alondra Karwowski (2012-11-02 10:19:25)

Usually it's just the ring size. The personal size planners are great if you want to carry around a lot with you. The compact is great if you only want to carry what you need.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-02 10:20:10)

If you have been reading Filofaxy for that time, you are obviously suffering from enablitis. Unfortunately we haven't found a cure yet - some readers have been found under a mountain of Filofaxes and suffocated.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-02 10:20:52)

PS - if you are lucky things will settle down when you find your perfect binder, then you will spend all your time on ebay.

Cassandra (2012-11-02 12:42:38)

Well I've had FC fail for the last year, but think I have found a viable solution. I bought a red pocket chameleon a month ago. Red smells absolutely divine and my kids laugh when they see me sniffing :) he is my wallet, shopping list keeper. I left the A-Z dividers and then use a jot pad sheet or sheet depending in the list. Place the name at top (Walmart, Albertson's, Home Depot, etc) at top and then list. Has been great. 2 weeks later I bought a A5 finsbury to replace my classic FC. I am still playing, but for now I have monthly dividers, I stuck a post it with items that occur in that month on a yearly basis, I have a MOOP, health tracker, monthly goals, separate planning sheets for each special event. Then I have the WO2P columns, use Avery restickables for my weekly chores across top and small post it's for menu across bottom. 6 dividers-to dos (the odd jobs like paint the closet, sharpen lawn mower blades, this section might not stay). Shopping lists, I am keeping it here since my menus are in the A5 vs pocket. Goal tab. Christmas/birthday tab. Reference tab, I keep track of each family members important info.-ss #, birthdate, blood type, allergies, clothing size, a page for each dentist, doctor, eyes. I made column for date, a column for name, and the the rest is where I describe what the appointment was for. A page for each vehicle, pertinent info at top so when I get parts I know the answers:). Then a colum for date and then I write what was done with the vehicle, ie tires rotated + mileage, oil change + mileage, new tires, new battery, etc. etc.

the notepad in the back I use for my daily list of what needs done. When something hits my brain I write it down and I check them off as I do them. When everything on page is check off I toss it in garbage.

Sorry so long!

Alison Reeves (2012-11-02 12:47:39)

Filofax have just posted a sale on their website.

Paul B (2012-11-02 13:36:08)

Hi David, whilse on holiday in Italy, I looked in the window of a beautiful pen and paper shop close to the Duomo. In the window was a Caran D'Ache pencil which was both curious, beautiful and practical. It seemed to be a standard Caran D'Ache pencil, which fitted inside a silver top, modelled onm a pen top. The owner told me that insde the lid was a built-in sharpener, so the pencil looks like an expensive fountain pen, with a pocket clip, but still having the functionality of everyday use. I seem to remember it cost somewhere around £35. Might be worth a look for you.

Neil (2012-11-02 13:46:21)

David, try a small modeller's plane. I find it very theraputic to have a wine glass full of sharpened pencils. Once a week, I spend about five minutes sharpening the lot over the kitchen sink, rather than create mess at my writing desk. The advantage of using a plane is that you can set the "angle" to your own preference.

David Popely (2012-11-02 13:56:26)

Hi Paul - I love Florence.....sounds like a great pencil you saw, do you have a link to a web image at all?

Neil - sounds really interesting! I know just what you mean about the therapeutic effect of sharpening pencils...tidying the desk...the GTD weekly review has very much the same effect on me. Can you send me a link to a modeller's plane please? I'm unfamiliar, but sounds interesting....

Frederique (2012-11-02 15:24:39)

And I thought the Pocket Guildford Extra Slim *was* the smallest I ever saw IRL, I never realized there could even be a smaller (and usable) model :)

(I've just checked on filofax.fr, and found the reply to my own question : your mini and the pocket both have 11mm rings.)

Would you care to explain a little bit how you use it ? Which diary refills (if any...) you are using ? Or do you just have notes, and addresses, perhaps ?

I sometimes think that I'd better get a functional mini/pocket, very sleek and slim, instead of the awful little (but functional) notebook that's always in my pocket/purse...

Neil (2012-11-02 15:33:51)

David - here are some examples.

http://www.cornwallmodelboats.co.uk/acatalog/files_planes.html

And here's a guide for plane geeks.

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

Set the blade to shave extremely close, hold the plane upside down and, with care and with a gloved hand, draw the pencil backwards across the blade. The resulting "flat spots" have aesthetic appeal, in my opinion. I prefer just three sides, but you could have as many as you wish.

All completely against health and safety, of course, but so was climbing trees and swimming in canals when I were a wee lad.

There's a certain something to be gained from the pencil selection process, when choosing a particular pencil from the wine glass - you can see all the points and it is your own skill and judgement that determines the resulting line on the page.

All very satisfying, in a geeky sort of way, and cost effective both in terms of time (if you sharpen all your pencils at once) and pencil lead (you remove less material than a traditional rotary sharpener).

Monique Carrillo (2012-11-02 16:10:34)

Natalie-I know exactly what you mean. I found an old Filofax in the garage about three months ago and now have the Osterley in pocket, compact, personal, and A5 and I have a Holborn on order. :0

Cheryl (2012-11-02 16:30:55)

I have my eye on the Optic Zipped Female Briefcase and some of the Courier bags but with conversion from British to US dollars and shipping from UK to US on top of that, its not really in my budget. But its fun to look!

Cheryl (2012-11-02 16:33:59)

I just received an email from Filofax USA that there will be shipping delays due to the hurricane on the East coast. So if anyone, like me, placed an order in the past 4 days they hope to have caught up and everything shipped by Monday. Was looking forward to getting my Holborn this weekend :(but its totally understandable. Wilton, CT is one of the areas without power.

Cheryl (2012-11-02 16:39:21)

Curious how you are finding the switch up. As I've used FC for the past 20+ years and now using Filofax, I'm finding the transition a wee bit challenging with inserts. For example, with my FC classic size I can find all kinds of tabbed dividers, paper, page protectors (which I hoard) and other accessories so readily available at Office Depot or Staples. And I like the Martha Stewart binder products that also have the right hole alignment. Of course, not so with the Personal size, but for the A5 size I find I am either making things or ordering expensive inserts from Filofax and have to wait for delivery. As with the FC I can just go to any office supply and find what I need. I love my Filofax A5 but I do not like printing or hole punching my own inserts or having to order everything online. That's just my one issue with switching from FC to Filofax but I do love my A5 Malden, Finchley and Chameleon.

Paul Reynolds (2012-11-02 16:41:23)

Hello Frederique

Interesting to see that this model is still available on filofax.fr. I didn't know of its existence until I saw the one I purchased on eBay.

Well, I only received it yesterday, so it is not yet in use, but I am planning on using it as a general notebook rather than a diary. (It arrived with a WO2P diary, which fits in comfortably, although you couldn't really add much else.)

I am going to be travelling a lot in the next few months, so I plan to use it to keep track of flight details, hotel

reservations etc. No doubt I will also use it to temporarily record some other appointments which I can later record in the diary in my main Filofax (compact Holborn) which I don't carry with me all the time. I think it will be so useful to have it in a pocket at all times, because I do like to go out without carrying bags and briefcases as much as I can.

SMW (2012-11-02 17:10:34)

I didn't know one was coming up! Oh I really wish I could as I am only about 3 hours drive away, but finances and lack of childcare means I can't this time. Next time I will definitely save up and get there though, I am sure you will have a great time.

John (2012-11-02 18:40:45)

Some time past, I scored a vintage black colored Personal off of EBay, old enough that it didn't have an obvious name, only labeled "The British FILOFAX System / Real Calf. The only clue is an inner flap stamp: No. 127444. Does this style have a name?

FYI it's a gorgeous thick black leather, with a matching black ring mechanism. Its only drawback is that the button doesn't snap securely.

PaperMeister (2012-11-02 19:00:00)

Alondra,

Hey, thanks! I think in the US it's slimline, not compact. Why can't it all be universal?

Thanks again=)

Butanben (2012-11-02 22:07:36)

Wow!! The Caran D'Ache pencil sounds just utterly mind blowingly wonderful!! A huge expense for a pencil... but it sounds like the pencil of all pencils to yearn for!!! Oooh, please don't enable me on that one....I just adore Caran D'Ache things. David... when I was a teacher I could have done with you as my pencil monitor to sharpen my pencils!!! Hee Heee!! The electric sharpeners were useless... blades blunted quickly. The best sharpener I had was indeed one of those old fashioned rotary ones from Lidl's at £1.20, which I kept to sharpen pencils at home...didn't look safe enough for the children to use to me.... and I was really miffed when it eventually broke.... I never did find another which was as good !!!! Sounds like the more expensive one from Staples with replacement blades is the best option. We need to put a good inventor onto that one I think!!! Dragons' Den anyone???

krustykurmudgeon (2012-11-02 23:23:45)

I have two or three personal sized binders with 11mm rings. One is a "Cambridge" brand cheapie with a stiff cover that I don't use. The ring mechanism seems good, so maybe I should try removing it to make an ultimate slim organizer. I have two apparently unbranded simple black binders that I picked up in a bargain bin 15 years ago or so. One is the family phone and address book by the main phone in our kitchen eating area and the other is in my car holding my car papers. I had thought that these had the filofax name in them, but when I checked, I was wrong.

My problem with 11mm rings is that you really can't put much in these binders. Even the 2mm difference of a 13mm ring seems enormous.

kanalt (2012-11-03 07:07:32)

Here in the US, there is the personal, the compact, and the slimline. The compact ring sizes fall somewhere between the personal and slimline. I have used all three, and the compact is perfect. I found the personal too big and the slimline too small. I have been using the compact for about a year now. I don't think I'll ever go back to personal (unless I have a real need to).

gmax (2012-11-03 09:04:49)

Sounds like an American version. Does the interior match the Winchester layout perhaps? (You can find photos if you search Philofaxy for Winchester and pick Steve's "Design Comparison" post from March.)

gmax (2012-11-03 09:29:51)

I very recently got a vintage slimline personal that has 11mm rings. It's definitely the Filofax make but bears no marking, and is otherwise identical to the old 3CL (3 pocket, calf leather) model, which has 13mm rings. Not started using it yet, but it lends itself to a jacket pocket.

MTMTE (2012-11-03 19:31:35)

Heads up also: filofax.dk are also selling it at a cheaper price than .se, and the pockets are also available. .dk has the most economic international post option as it bases costs on weight not value.

City Organiser Promotion Code (2012-11-02 05:22) - Steve Morton



[1]

I would just like to alert you to the latest [2]City Organiser Promotion Code, this will get you an additional **10 %** off their already discounted (in most cases) prices and you will no doubt experience their excellent customer service.

If you haven't bought from them before then you should give them a try, fast service and very reasonable delivery rates even abroad.

The promotion code is **firework** and it will terminate at mid night (UK time) on 5th November 2012.

In case you are wondering we aren't getting anything for promoting City Organiser on Philofaxy, we are just satisfied customers like a lot of other folks.

1. <http://philofaxy.com/co.jpg>

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

Web Finds - 3 November 2012 (2012-11-03 00:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from around the web:

1. [1]Letts profits halved as diary maker admits tough trading will continue - The Scotsman
2. [2]Where my Filofax sleeps - The Storage Studio
3. [3]Printing Your Own Filofax Diary 101 - jagged little thoughts
4. [4]New Filofax Diary Pages - jagged little thoughts
5. [5]Filofax Setup: My Blog Post Checklist - Planning with Printed Portal
6. [6]My Dirty Filofax Addiction - Matryoshka Vegan
7. [7]Neue Umfrage: Wechselt Ihr 2013 das Kalenderformat? - Filomaniac
8. [8]The Filofax Storyboard page revisited - My Life All in One Place
9. [9]The Charmer - Vanjilla
10. [10]Stop-Watching with Paperchase - Planning with Printed Portal

11. [11]Filofax Flex Slim - Matryoshka Vegan
12. [12]I love my Filofax - Slummy single mummy
13. [13]The Essential Teacher Organiser – does it exist? - It's a book thing
14. [14]all stars guest post: Vanja of Vanjilla! - Paper Lovestory
15. [15]Filofax Arrival; My new Regency Personal Review! - My Filo World
16. [16]Routines, Checklists, To-Do Lists – What's the Difference? - Homemakers Daily
17. [17]bright filofax papers - Fantail Designs
18. [18]De-Stuffing the Personal Baroque - The Storage Studio
19. [19]Other mothers have handsome sons, too - We really didn't need another Filofax blog
20. [20]Baroque, it's over between us - Circus Life with Disturbed Mamacita
21. [21]De-cluttering my closets - Part 1 - Cloudberry Musings
22. [22]compact osterley review - Paper Lovestory
23. [23]temperley for filofax style challenge: embroidered dress - Fash-ling
24. [24]Injecting a bit of life..... - Filofit
25. [25]Review Of The A5 Filofax Family Organizer Pack - Loving My Filofax
26. [26]Modeling: Another shade of my versatile Filofax - Lime Tree
27. [27]Filofax Flex - Claire Murray
28. [28]Filofax Collection of the Week - Paperlovestory - Imy's World
29. [29]lost in translation - Daisybutter
30. [30]My Personal Filofax Family - Cloudberry Musings
31. [31]custom meal planner inserts - Paper Lovestory

And here are the latest Video finds from the web

IFRAME: [32]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/wFbZoU2uCVU?rel=0>

IFRAME: [33]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/CHxhjDPKfbY?rel=0>

IFRAME: [34]http://www.youtube.com/embed/-tZZ0_A7sfg?rel=0

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/D-aOp-WGAH8?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://www.scotsman.com/business/industry/letts-profits-halved-as-diary-maker-admits-tough-trading-will-continue-1-2610862>
2. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/where-my-filofax-sleeps.html>
3. <http://jaggedlittlthoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/printing-your-own-filofax-diary-101.html>
4. <http://jaggedlittlthoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/10/new-filofax-diary-pages.html>
5. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/10/30/filofax-setup-my-blog-post-checklist/>
6. <http://www.matryoshkavegan.co.uk/2012/10/my-dirty-filofax-addiction.html>
7. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/10/neue-umfrage-wechselt-ihr-2013-das.html>
8. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/10/the-filofax-storyboard-page-revisited.html>

9. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/10/the-charmer.html>
10. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/10/31/stop-watching-with-paperchase/>
11. <http://www.matryoshkavegan.co.uk/2012/10/filofax-flex-slim.html>
12. <http://slummysinglemummy.wordpress.com/2012/10/30/i-love-my-filofax/>
13. <http://engliteducate.wordpress.com/2012/10/30/the-essential-teacher-organiser-does-it-exist/>
14. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/10/all-stars-guest-post-vanja-of-vanjilla.html>
15. <http://myfiloworld.com/index.php/filofax-arrival-my-new-regency-personal-review/>
16. <http://homemakersdaily.com/routines-checklists-to-do-lists-whats-the-difference/>
17. <http://fantail-designs.blogspot.fr/2012/10/bright-filofax-papers.html>
18. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/10/de-stuffing-personal-baroque.html>
19. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/11/other-mothers-have-handsome-sons-too.html>
20. <http://mamacitascircus.blogspot.fr/2012/11/baroque-it-over-between-us.html>
21. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/de-cluttering-my-closets-part-1.html>
22. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/compact-osterley-review.html>
23. <http://www.fash-ling.com/2012/11/temperley-for-filofax-style-challenge.html>
24. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/11/01/injecting-a-bit-of-life/>
25. <http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.fr/2012/11/this-is-review-of-filofax-a5-family.html>
26. <http://www.limetreefruits.com/2012/11/modeling-another-shade-of-my-versatile-filofaxhtml>
27. <http://www.clairemurray.co.uk/blog/2012/filofax-flex/>
28. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-collection-of-week.html>
29. <http://www.daisybutter.com/2012/11/lost-in-translation.html>
30. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/my-personal-filofax-family.html>
31. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/custom-meal-planner-inserts.html>
32. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/wFbZoU2uCVU?rel=0>
33. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/CHxhjDPKfbY?rel=0>
34. http://www.youtube.com/embed/-tZZ0_A7sfg?rel=0
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/D-aOp-WGAH8?rel=0>

natalie (2012-11-03 03:47:14)

Can I add mine to the list please?

<http://theyarnyard.co.uk/blog/2012/11/02/filofax-friday-nanoblomo/>

Cloudberry (2012-11-03 05:09:08)

Wow, Natalie. I love your Chrono view of your day. I am going to borrow that idea and put it into action today.

natalie (2012-11-03 05:17:00)

If you have an A5 I can email you the PDF if you like? It's a bit rough but it works for me.

Cloudberry (2012-11-03 09:49:59)

That would be great! I'm use Personal size, but can shrink it down. cloudberrymusings at gmail dot com

Simply Car (2012-11-03 10:41:57)

Hello! Love these web finds list! Been a longtime lover of planners but a newbie in the lovely world of Filofax. I love it here so much, I think I'll stay for awhile. :)

John (2012-11-03 11:00:40)

Interesting business link to the Scotsman. Curious on UK readers' thoughts (from the US here) - could the cut in profit be due to investment in repatriation of production from China to domestic (noted at the end of the article)? And I wonder if the non-renewal of the credit facility has to do with simplifying their books ahead of a company sale. What's the perspective more locally? Bad news headline might not be all bad news...

Tim (2012-11-03 13:34:30)

John - the drop in profits is not due to moving some Letts diary manufacture back to Scotland. It is down to falling sales across their ranges coupled with increased costs. Sales were down 10 % in 2011 on top of a 7 % drop in 2010. Figures for 2012 are rumoured to be even worse. Total sales (£52m) are now lower than they were when Letts Filofax Group was created in 2001 (£55m). Profits are down for the third year running and the venture capitalists want out. There are other factors but it's a tough time for manufacturers of paper diaries and organisers in our tablet and smart phone world. Prepare for some shock changes in the next year or two.

Neil (2012-11-03 14:39:52)

There's more to the Letts situation than some may think. The typical customer, perhaps more so than the population as a whole, will be:

1. More likely to have access to cloud based diary systems than ever before.
2. More likely to be uncomfortable about purchasing products made in low wage economies on the other side of the globe than ever before.
3. More likely to be aware of the environmental impact of unsustainable paper manufacture than ever before.
4. More likely, through social and other media channels, to make purchasing decisions based on reviews by their peers than ever before.

And of course, who really wants to buy a diary insert in five languages, just because the supplier wants to boost their economies of scale, when it's so easy these days to print your own. Or indeed have to wait until almost half the year is gone, before being able to get a diary for the following year.

There will always be those of us who prefer paper diaries but, as our numbers diminish, the only suppliers likely to survive will be those who recognise the need to listen to their customers, a concept that seems to be unfamiliar to certain companies in this field.

kanalt (2012-11-04 08:32:57)

Obviously. I've heard of David Allen and the GTD system, but I have never really looked into. I found his lecture very interesting and spot-on in many ways. I think this may be the start of really looking into the GTD system. My system works very well for me, but like many things, it could probably use some improvements. Thanks for sharing this!

A Date For Your Diary 11 November 2012 (2012-11-04 00:00) - Steve Morton

New York

Sao Paulo

London

Paris

We are going to run another conference round-table voice chat using Skype, this is slightly later in the month because I wanted to avoid the weekend when the clocks change in the US!

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 11 November** from 11am (US East Coast time), 4pm London time, 5 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. Come and listen if you don't want to chat.

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 11 November 2012**.

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

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

Anne (2012-11-04 04:51:57)

Never joined a round table before so would like to next week, I will set skype up etc today. Thank you!

Steph (2012-11-05 12:51:42)

i have never been able to join in the round table, as in the past it has never seemed to work out with my schedule. Is it possible to just join in the text chat portion? I don't have a mic at this time. The one on my laptop is not working. I do have headphones though. Sooner or later I will make it to one of these.

Steve Morton (2012-11-05 12:54:41)

Yes it possible to just join in the text part and/or just listen to the chat as well.

English isn't everyone's first language and I know from living here in France that reading French and understanding it is a lot different to the spoken word!!

So yes join in next Sunday. To join in just answer the call when I come on line and if you don't want to talk but just listen mute your mic in Skype and then we won't get any background noise, but you will be able to listen and type in the text bit.

Reader Under The Spotlight - Lindsay (2012-11-05 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

This week I would like to introduce you to Lindsay

Hi everyone, I'm Lindsay, a 38 year old accountant, living in Switzerland with my wonderful fiancé Ben,

and our two gorgeous (if a touch crazy) sons age 5 and 7.

When I'm not working or chasing children around (or just plain being driven crazy by said children) I blog at LJ's Blog of Stuff, and read Philofaxy. There are many other things that I should do, or want to do, but I haven't quite worked out how to fit them in yet :o)

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

I bought my first Filofax in February 2011 after seeing Lucy's raspberry personal Chameleon. After much researching online and reading of Philofaxy I decided on a personal Finsbury in aqua, which is currently in the process of becoming my happiness binder... yep, that's taken a while to get going :o)

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

I haven't used any other brands so far, but since purchasing my first Filofax I have become a total stationery whore and feel that I am developing a fetish for notebooks. I have looked at many of the other available planner inserts, but haven't been brave enough to try any of them yet - apart from homemade ones.

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

Now this is a tricky one, that's like trying to choose your favourite child (which is actually easy - my children know that the favourite child in our house at the moment is Roomba, never argues and actually cleans stuff). I love them all (well, almost all - maroon Panama knows who I'm talking about). At this precise moment in time I am totally loving my A5 Kendal - there are no words to describe it (apart from rugged, rugged and hell yeah - rugged!!!). There is just something about him that makes me feel like I have chosen the bad boy - in a very good way :o) But my pocket ochre Malden also comes everywhere with me as it holds my rail cards (nothing else in it is actually essential - I just love it).

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Can I plead the Fifth on this one? No? I have 14.715 [2]Philofaxy's... that's not so bad... OK - in 'real money' I have 3 minis, 4 pockets, 2 compacts, 17 personals, 14 A5's and 2 A4's. I could claim that one of the A5's isn't really mine anymore as my other half uses it to monitor his exercise and food at the moment (he is so dedicated - I need to take a leaf out of his book/Filofax). I admit, 42 may be a tad excessive, but you know, a girl has to make sure she can fill the [3]display case, right? Oh *whisper - there is another personal and an A5 on the way to me too*.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

Well, I like to write things and carry stylish accessories *simper*... JOKING!!! I use my Filofax very successfully for work, resulting in me now working pretty much my standard 42 hour week, instead of the extra three hours that I used to manage most days, and I can categorically state that while some of this is due to changing procedures etc, a large part of it (including fitting in the time to review and change said procedures) has been achieved purely because of my use of my beloved filo babies. I also try to organise my personal time using my Filofax, but I'm not so good at this yet, and I guess that until I accept that my personal time is every bit as important as my work time I will struggle to do this. I have some binders set aside for specific things (happiness binder, Goddess Circle, scrapbooking), but these will only really start to be used properly when I sort out my mindset regarding my personal time...

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

I just love how you can make it do whatever you want (within reason obviously, I mean, it is paper - you're not going to be able to get it to give you a decent neck massage when you've had a tough day - although it can help you organise your time so you can get someone else to give you one). And I love that you can hole punch all kinds of stuff and just stick them straight in there.

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

Pockets!!! I love my pockets... I barely use them at the moment, but just knowing they are there makes me feel somehow secure - yes, I am a freak :o) It would feature beautiful inserts on nice paper (I would say fountain pen friendly as I would love to be grown up enough to use one, but my writing with one of those things is shocking), but pens tend to write smoother on decent paper. And it would be magic - I could wave my wand and the setup would change to exactly what I wanted on that particular day, colours, patterns, everything - OK, I may need some help to design that as I can't actually do magic, but if I could invite Harry Potter to tea I'm sure I could get him to understand how important this would be to so many people... Ooh - I almost forgot the most important part - A5 compact!!! My life would be complete if I could get that size!!!

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

Usually in my work bag - currently just thrown in randomly without a care in the world, but previously I would usually put it inside my Waterstones canvas book bag first to protect it.

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

I have to say my collection is looking rather heavy on the red/purple/pink side of things, and although I was totally stunned by the colour of the plum Osterley, I have now seen the orange one - wow!!! However, I will probably not buy it as I have amazing willpower ;o)

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

Another tricky one... I know that I have paid full price for very few of my filox (personal Fins as I knew no better, A4 Metropol and maybe a couple of Domino's). I think the most was probably the personal ruby Deco, which was half price on Filofax UK towards the end of last year, although technically that was a Christmas present (even though I ordered it myself - I had to make sure it was the right one, you just can't trust non-Filofax fans to do these things, I mean, I could have ended up with an Apex *shudder*).

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

I love the fact that it shows me that there are other people out there that are as crazy as me, and it proves to other people who know me that my obsession isn't that odd. I love reading the web finds and all the posts for various things. I love FFAF and FFAT. I love Adspot. I just plain love Philofaxy :o)

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

There is nothing that I do not like about Philofaxy - the only thing I struggle with is watching the videos that get posted on the web finds, but that's just me having no patience to sit still to watch it while people talk... I just want to skip straight to the guts of the binders and the setups. As a small child I hated having to sit down and listen while the teacher read us a story, I'd rather just have the book and read it myself, the only thing that was good about it was that whichever girls were sat behind me would constantly play with my hair and braid it and stuff while we sat there. Maybe I should get one of the boys to sit and mess around with my hair while I watch them... now there's an idea... lol :o)

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

I think it was Biffy Clyro - Live at Wembley. They are such an amazing band - definitely worth checking out :o)

Thank you Lindsay, I still think your 'Display Cabinet' is the 'ultimate' collectors item!

If you would like to be a future 'Reader Under The Spotlight' please get in touch with us at philofaxy [at] gmail [dot] com

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/--EV323B1Jzs/UIRW55Buy0I/AAAAAAAAANwU/VTusupcQfW8/s1600/562742_4331835581646_1250871438_n.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/02/filofax-organisers-how-many-do-you-own.html>
3. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/09/wow-wow-wow-ebay-heaven.html>

Vanjilla (2012-11-05 03:10:32)

Yay, "meeting" you at last! :) xx

Alison (2012-11-05 04:54:25)

Great post LJ :-) xx

Anita (2012-11-05 06:38:13)

Lovely to 'meet' you, LJ!

44 filofaxes is an awesome collection & your display case is just perfect :)

Babs (2012-11-05 08:00:20)

Wow - that display case is amazing!! Lovely to read your RUTS LJ.

Louloudorset (2012-11-05 08:58:17)

I love this!!! To think not long ago you didn't even own 1 Filofax let alone a display case ;0)

But it's also great to hear how much they've helped organise your time too so they are clearly worth their weight in gold!

Lx

LJ (2012-11-05 12:40:28)

It's official I am now famous!!! I am sitting here now feeling all warm and fluffy inside :o) Thanks guys for your lovely comments, and Miss Louloudorset - I totally blame you for this obsession of mine, thank you x

Helen Conway (2012-11-05 18:09:01)

42? Good woman. That number makes my number look tame. I sent my husband a link to your post and the display cabinet post and a few hours later he said he'd pay for the Grey Malden I just bought today. I think maybe your post made him feel that at 14 I was positively deprived.

Doris (2012-11-05 21:23:43)

Nice to meet you LJ! (:

printedportal (2012-11-06 01:45:26)

You might just helped me justify another purchase :D love the display cabinet.

SSA (2012-11-06 02:04:40)

one of my favourite reader under the spotlight's ever!

Lime Tree (2012-11-06 12:28:40)

I am late for the "LJ-meet-and-greet-party" but I am soooo glad I made it over here anyways! :)

LOVE your collection! Your display should become a touristic attraction for Philofaxy fans just like Neal Street and CityOrganiser. hehe

Free For All Tuesday No. 92 (2012-11-06 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have.

So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypHOYfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

Fancast (2012-11-06 00:47:21)

I just spent about a week obsessing over what kind of planner to get. I finally decided on a compact finsbury filofax, which was the closest to my pay range. Now, I need to obsess over what kind of inserts to get! I can already tell that I'm going to throw out the week on two pages diary. I want a week on one page, a month on two pages, and COPIOUS business card/credit card and extra plastic holder inserts (I plan to use my filofax as a wallet and life extension).

The question is I pretty much blew most of my paycheck on the filofax. I thought Franklin covey inserts might be cheaper. But what size inserts will fit my compact filofax? I've read a few blog posts who mourn how inserts that

would fit the Personal filofax don't fit the compact. Do you have any thoughts? (I wish Filofax sold a "starter kit" like Franklin Covey does!)

Suus S (2012-11-06 01:55:15)

I am new to the Filofax. I use to have another organizer (Success). For a while I have used the Moleskine week on one page. But I love the Filofax. I have now the Malden Personal and just love it. But I like the Moleskine paper more than the Filofax paper. So I want to integrate my Moleskine in the Filofax. The large size is too large and the pocket is too small. Any thoughts or idea??

ArtJournal88 (2012-11-06 02:25:04)

How about trying different formats by downloading the templates philofaxy provides? I wasn't sure either when I planned the setup of my filo, and now i am quite happy with a week on two pages calendar I downloaded from the "files" section. I can't find it right now, but there is much stuff to play around with.

Fancast (2012-11-06 02:48:28)

I will probably take your suggestion and download templates, but I also wondered about size comparison because i would like to buy the business card and other extra plastic and tabbed inserts that aren't printable from FC.

Savannah (2012-11-06 03:24:14)

FC will not fit in a compact personal Filofax because the pages are too wide. You could try Day Timer refills which have the same dimensions as Filofax as well as Day Runner. Filofax is the only company I know of that has a week per page refill. They also have two page per month tabbed and untabbed. I think you'll have a really hard time finding a week per page any where else. Even if the FC starter pack in compact size did fit in your binder width wise, all the tabs and papers probably would be too fat to fit in a compact with wee 5/8" rings, especially if you were using it with card inserts and plastic pockets. If you are interested in tab sections Filofax, Day Runner, Day Timer and many other paper planning manufacturers sell them in the right size. I think you would probably be better off if you bought everything you need from Filofax with the needs you expressed.

WeirdRockStar (2012-11-06 04:01:08)

Filofax paper might not be the best of range but many of us myself included print our own pages. There is plethora of printables here on Filofaxy and if it is M- paper you hanker after, perhaps either by using guillotine or crafting knife just make the larger pages smaller to fit your needs? I found my paper of choice by simply trying out different papers and then sliced them half (I use A5 size)but I found these fabulous binded books I intend to destroy for my diary uses for 2013. Chinese books with silk covers, rounded edges on pages and page " sides " are golden (BLING!!!)so I simply must use them this coming year, you see. The golden nugget with Filofax is that they so are open to customization and simply, the options are all open.

MySummerTouch (2012-11-06 04:05:25)

I found an interesting video about using a filofax as an art journal-on -the-go, I've never seen anything like it on philofaxy, and I want to share it .http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yu_g4QgP1yo &feature=share &list=PL93F1B25E60CD04BB

Clara

natalie (2012-11-06 04:46:20)

Question for Laurie (and others).

Is there a Filofax version of the Women's Success Planner?

Or will they sell it without holes?

I'm not sure I can cope with the idea of looking at it with a dozen holes punched up the side.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-06 05:02:40)

I saw someone online who had put tape over the original holes then re-punched and it looked very good. You can get some very pretty tapes these days with designs in all sorts of colour ways. Google Washi tape.

WeirdRockStar (2012-11-06 05:37:58)

I love all of these videos, thank you for linking them!

Steve Morton (2012-11-06 07:48:56)

Thanks I've added this one to webfinds coming up later today

Steve

Laurie (2012-11-06 07:55:23)

They don't sell any other sizes of the Women's Success Planner, and I don't know if they can get the pages without the holes punched, it depends on where their printing facility is maybe. You could email them and ask?

Maria (2012-11-06 08:04:25)

What's your best tip for carrying folded A4 paper securely in your A5? Without punching holes in it, I mean.

Clara (2012-11-06 08:13:26)

Does anyone have a pocket 2013 diary they're willing to sell? I'd gladly pay for the diary and shipping!

Clara (2012-11-06 08:14:30)

I store it in the secretarial pocket on my a5 finsbury

Steve Morton (2012-11-06 08:15:12)

Hi Clara

Take a look in Adspot there are some inserts there I'm sure:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/adspot.html>

Steve

the Merry Lemon (2012-11-06 08:23:41)

Can anyone tell me the difference between the Pennybridge personal and the Malden zip personal? I know the Malden is leather and the Pennybridge is not. And because so few sites show pictures of the inside of any filofaxes.....

Steve Morton (2012-11-06 08:30:21)

Apart from one being leather and the other not... they are more or less the same design...

My review of the Malden is here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/06/filofax-malden-compact-zipped-organiser.html>

And Judith did a review/set up of her Pennybridge here:

<http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/07/setup-of-my-travel-filofax.html>

Steve

Ling (2012-11-06 08:53:21)

The ringbound Women's success planner will fit the filofax A5 without additional hole punching. Just cut away the wire and put it in. You will still have many holes, but at least they are evenly spaced.

Ling (2012-11-06 08:54:48)

I have a spare oct-dec version of the Women's success planner. I could send it to you if you'd like to try it out. Just click on my profile and mail me.

Amanda (2012-11-06 09:01:58)

I use transparent envelopes/plastic pockets. The ones with a side opening can carry loads.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-11-06 09:30:48)

If you haven't found one, I think my Mum will be selling hers because she's just moved up to personal size after buying her 2013 pocket diary for next year. Let me know if you're still interested.

Helen Conway (2012-11-06 09:58:52)

Thanks for this link. Not only did it brighten up a boring lunchtime at work but it has renewed thoughts about art journaling for me. By co-incidence I had mentioned it at the end of my last post on www.teaandtalkfortwo.blogspot.com last night and had been bemoaning to myself the complete pain of having to somehow carry art stuff around and how I hate to use bound sketchbooks as once I do one pathetic drawing I have 'spoiled the book'. I had also been thinking previously about how I like to look at altered books but don't see the point of the end product. Suddenly all kinds of creative thoughts are coming together.. and just as a Grey Malden is on its way to me too...(thanks to Adspot- thanks Steve!...which practically has a pencil case built into it and has huge rings for wallets and um, stuff..hmmm... is it time to go home and play yet?

skybluepinkish (2012-11-06 10:04:14)

I'm sure it is time to go and play by now Helen! I've just been reviewing and changing what I use and have just discovered that one way or another I have 9 files or notebooks that are in constant use. I have finally managed to break the back of the "mustn't spoil it" feeling but I know exactly what you mean. Have a good play :)

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-11-06 10:38:33)

I've checked and she has a 2013 week on 2 pages and a 2013 vertical year planner, both pocket-sized and unopened. Let me know x

Eleanor (2012-11-06 11:22:57)

Hi,

I have an A5 Identity which is ideal for my day to day use. I use week on two pages and day per page.

My question is; how do you long term file's block out chunks of time? I work in seven hour segments and have tried highlighting the slots, diagonal lines through the whole chunk, stickers to block it out... I just want a neat and effective, uniform way of doing this and its driving me mad!

Any help appreciated!

Elle

natalie (2012-11-06 11:35:24)

Thank you very much, I have emailed you (and offered an exchange you may enjoy).

Cheryl (2012-11-06 11:35:47)

Concur with above. I have some FC inserts and they stick out of a regular Personal size Filofax which is wider than a Compact size. Definitely stick with Filofax inserts or the Day Runner and Day Timer; those will fit. And depending where you live, if you need them quickly you can get Day Runner and Day Timer inserts at your local Staples, Office Max or Office Depot where as you will most likely have to order the Filofax inserts online.

Cheryl (2012-11-06 11:38:29)

This is good to know because I was interested in checking out the Women's Success Planner inserts but did not want to punch holes, use tape or have a bunch of misaligned holes in my paper. Gosh that drives me nuts. Gonna check out that quarterly supplement now...thanks for the tip.

Cheryl (2012-11-06 11:43:14)

I have to get my hands on that Malden zip personal. I forgot where they are available so am on a mission to find one; in purple I think if they have one. I can never find a walled that has enough credit card/store card pockets and this model is perfect with all those pockets, slots and spot for a planner. Why aren't these more popular/available?! Or am I one of the few that geeks out over it?!

Steve Morton (2012-11-06 11:48:00)

Filofax Germany and France have them. UK will be getting them next year I am told. I feel like I have been a Beta tester of these since May this year!!

Cheryl (2012-11-06 11:56:48)

Oh thanks Steve! I just looked at your review again and fell in love, again! I've written Filofax USA but they have no info as to when or if they will ever have them. So I will check out Germany and France websites or be patient and hope to see them more readily available next year (which is almost here!).

Cheryl (2012-11-06 12:03:56)

Oh yes I've seen this before...and forgot about it. Her videos are so creative!

nyssapod (2012-11-06 12:06:52)

Has anyone tried Sevenk paper in their A5 Filofax? I have just come across this brand on Amazon and looks relatively cost-effective (£4.50 for 100 sheets or £8.99 for 3 x 100 sheets).

Fancast (2012-11-06 12:41:53)

Ok thanks for the info. I'll bite the expensive bullet and order the plastic inserts from Filofax. Better safe than sorry!

LFZ (2012-11-06 13:21:56)

I recently purchased a slimline Holborn (love it!) I actually like that it doesn't have a clasp but there are times that I would like to keep it closed (in my purse for example) Any recommendations for larger elastic bands or some other mechanism to keep it closed?

thanks!

Lisa

the Merry Lemon (2012-11-06 14:24:35)

Thanks for the info. I believe I saw both the pennybridge and the Malden Zip on the City Organiser website.

mstraat (2012-11-06 15:56:43)

Midori book D-bands will work but make the leather a bit dented on the edges. Find them at www.jetpens.com. A young girl's headband, the kind that looks crocheted, is wide but softer and won't mar the cover.

Helen Conway (2012-11-06 18:30:41)

A nice ribbon tied around it?

Suzee Neal (2012-11-06 19:16:33)

A little late in asking this on a late Tuesday night .. but I looked high and low on this site for the printable 2014 fold out yearly calendar. Is there one available? I did a search on the blog and just found this year's. thanks!

Suzee Neal (2012-11-06 21:06:57)

Lol i meant 2013 , wow im really getting ahead

Maria (2012-11-07 17:29:50)

Thank you! This is what I did today: <http://ilovemystationery.blogspot.se/2012/11/a4-sheets-in-my-a5.html>

Laurie (2012-11-10 01:45:08)

Does anyone have the Filofax Classic Botanics compact in either Lilac or Sage? I wonder if these have the problem with the plastic layer that peels off like other Classic binders do?

Web Finds - 6 November 2012 (2012-11-06 12:00) - Steve Morton

And here are the latest Filofax posts from around the internet

1. [1]Filofax Friday #NaNoBloMo - The Yarn Yard

2. [2]My new obsession..... - AppleHead Threads
3. [3]my filofax week #29 - Paper Lovestory
4. [4]November Already....a sneaky list and Filofax tour - Modern Musings
5. [5]DIY dividers - Nothing's Original Anymore
6. [6]Some Ideas for Custom Inserts - Jagged Little Thoughts
7. [7]NaNoWriMo has inspired yet another use... - Planning with Printed Portal
8. [8]Tips for Buying on Ebay - This bugs life
9. [9]Christmas Inserts Pack - Jagged Little Thoughts
10. [10]80th Birthday - Franklin Covey
11. [11]Dispatch from the City - Quo Vadis
12. [12]Jan-Dec Index Tabs - The Storage Studio
13. [13]Filofax Flash Sale up to 50 % off - Filofax UK
14. [14]positivity and your to-do list - Paperplane Thinking
15. [15]Filofax monthly tabbed inserts - Pride, It Leaves you Hollow
16. [16]Linktipp (12): Dreikampf - Filomaniac
17. [17]Filofax dissection - Filofax Philosophy
18. [18]All Stars Guest Post: DEM From Thoughts & Exploration - Vanjilla
19. [19]Beating the uncreative blues - Tea and Talk for Two
20. [20]New divider I made for my Filofax - Filofax Love
21. [21]The Best Things In Life Are Free - Filofit
22. [22]My Filofax Week 5 & 6 - Glossette
23. [23]I've been bargain spotting! - All Things Stationery
24. [24]Philofaxy All Stars Guest Post by Lime Tree: Filofax Swap – A Classy Attempt - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
25. [25]School Week: Planning - Honey and Filofaxes
26. [26]Plan Your Work & Work Your Plan - Homemakers Daily
27. [27]stationery spot (I watch too much TV) - Paper Lovestory
28. [28]tips tuesday #1: steve from philofaxy - Paperplane thinking
29. [29]Progress notes - Monica Luis Blog
30. [30]Planning and disasters and disastrous planning - The Crazy Suburban Mom

We still have places available for the London Meet Up on November 24th, if you would like to come and join us check out the post here: [31]Philofaxy Meet Up - London - November 2012
 And here are the latest Filofax videos from the internet

IFRAME: [32]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/phoGdnmgEnE?rel=0>
IFRAME: [33]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/WYikn7Jgatg?rel=0>
IFRAME: [34]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/0c6esVQkkb4?rel=0>
IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/I8e0dVgeEe0?rel=0>
IFRAME: [36]http://www.youtube.com/embed/yu_g4QgP1yo?rel=0
IFRAME: [37]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/7CC3sp69dAk?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://theyarnyard.co.uk/blog/2012/11/02/filofax-friday-nanoblomo/>
2. <http://appleheadthreads.blogspot.fr/2012/11/my-new-obsession.html>
3. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/my-filofax-week-29.html>
4. <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.fr/2012/11/november-already-a-sneaky-list-and.html>
5. <http://nothingsoriginalanymore.blogspot.fr/2012/11/diy-dividers.html>
6. <http://jaggedlittlthoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/some-ideas-for-custom-inserts.html>
7. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/11/03/nanowrimo-has-inspired-yet-another-use/>
8. <http://thisbugslife.com/2012/11/04/tips-for-buying-on-ebay/>
9. <http://jaggedlittlthoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/christmas-inserts-pack.html>
10. http://www.franklincovey.com/tc/public/video/80th_birthday.html
11. <http://quovadisblog.com/2012/10/31/dispatch-from-the-city/>
12. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/11/jan-dec-index-tabs.html>
13. http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=50%25flash&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Fpage.asp%3Ffid%3D231%26cm_mmc%3DAwin-_-!!!id!!!-_-DEEPLINK-_-PAGE
14. <http://paperplanethinking.blogspot.fr/2012/11/positivity-and-your-to-do-list.html>
15. <http://clareio.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-monthly-tabbed-inserts.html>
16. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/11/linktipp-12-dreikampf.html>
17. <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-dissection.html>
18. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/11/all-stars-guest-post-dem-from-thoughts.html>
19. <http://teaandtalkfortwo.blogspot.fr/2012/11/beating-uncreative-blues.html>
20. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/11/05/new-divider-i-made-for-my-filofax/>
21. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/11/05/the-best-things-in-life-are-free/>
22. <http://makeupgeeek.wordpress.com/2012/11/05/my-filofax-week-5-6/>
23. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/11/ive-been-bargain-spotting.html>
24. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/11/05/philofaxy-all-stars-guest-post-by-lime-tree-filofax-swap-a-classy-attempt/>
25. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.fr/2012/11/school-week-planning.html>
26. <http://homemakersdaily.com/plan-your-work-work-your-plan/>
27. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/stationery-spot-i-watch-too-much-tv.html>
28. <http://paperplanethinking.blogspot.fr/2012/11/tips-tuesday-1-steve-from-philofaxy.html>
29. <http://mluisblog.blogspot.fr/2012/11/progress-notes.html>
30. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/planning-and-disasters-and-disastrous.html>
31. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/10/philofaxy-meet-up-london-november-2012.html>
32. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/phoGdnmgEnE?rel=0>
33. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/WYikn7Jgatg?rel=0>
34. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/0c6esVQkkb4?rel=0>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/I8e0dVgeEe0?rel=0>
36. http://www.youtube.com/embed/yu_g4QgP1yo?rel=0
37. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/7CC3sp69dAk?rel=0>

Carla H. (2012-11-06 12:06:41)

I absolutely LOVE these. Probably my favorite feature on Philofaxy. :)

HM (2012-11-07 16:10:00)

Thanks for including me :) I love the webfinds! Favorite part of the week!!

Going vintage (and my solution) (2012-11-07 00:00) - Anita Lim

I know I only recently posted about my filofax changes [1]here and [2]here, but I've already been having doubts about using a slimline as my main binder... Going through my Malden I got rid of lots of rubbish, but still had notes that wouldn't fit in my Adelphi but I still wanted to keep or go through. And that's when the craziness began! I remembered something one day and thought, "Great, that's in the back of my filofax" but then, "Oh, it's not as it doesn't fit any more". It was in my A5, but just wasn't as easy to find and now I needed to look in two separate places. The final straw came when I was arranging some paperwork for a holiday and I'm not sure if a slimline will be big enough for a week away but I don't want to take my A5 with me too. Uh-oh.

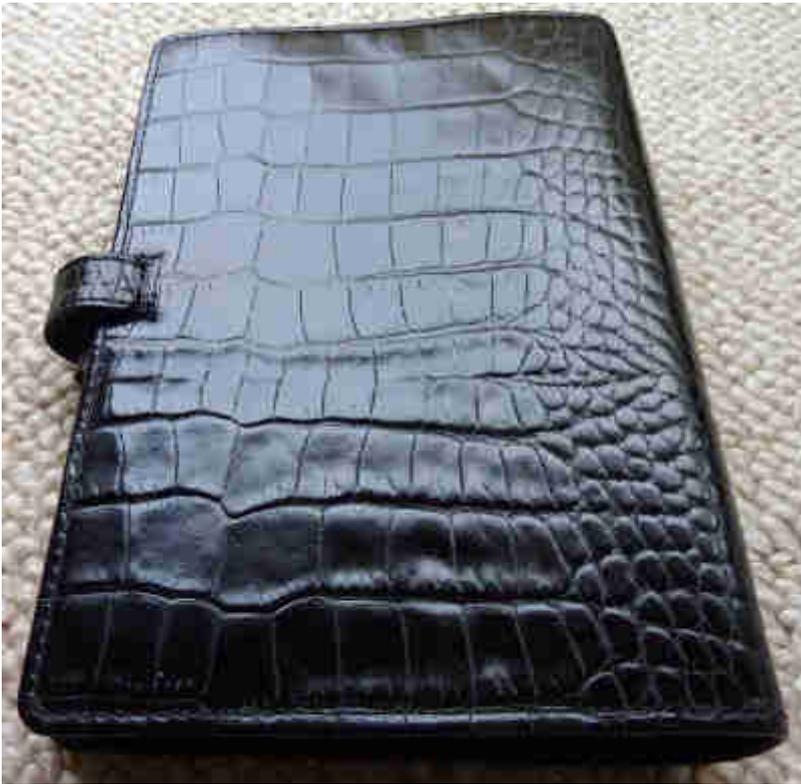
I've found (in my brief trial) that a slimline may appeal to my minimalist heart, but it's just not big enough for me to carry sufficient spare paper, inspirational quotes/notes along with all my essentials like my to-do lists and project info. I could imagine myself using it as a wallet or as a satellite filo when out and about but I want to simplify, not increase the number of binders I own.

And here is my solution, a personal Ascot purchased from the lovely Renate via the [3]Adspot page. This is one classy binder and the perfectly aligned rings shut with a louder and more satisfying snap than on any of my newer models'. It also feels more luxurious than the two Winchesters I briefly had in my possession.



[4] think) and less puffy than the Amazonas

Pretty similar to the Osterleys (I



[5]

The only proper sign of wear is where some of the stitching has gone from by the pen loop, but I'm hoping it'll hold on OK



[6]

8 card slots, 2 full length/width gusseted pockets with ring protectors, one small pen loop and the F on the ring mechanism (rather than on the exterior spine)



[7]

It feels much slimmer than either of my personal Maldens did, and I'll be moving to top tabs as the side ones get a bit stuck on my pen



[8]



[9]

Some extra goodies kindly included! I never imagined owning a black filo when there are so many colourful ones to choose from. And now I realise that it depends on the binder! After a little TLC using Nivea and shoe polish, I realised that I've found 'the one' (hallelujah). Despite singing the praises of my [10]A5 Domino snake I've barely touched it and it's been sitting looking pretty on my bookcase, I'm afraid. For a brief moment, I considered using all sizes together but I know that three is just too many for me. So, now what? My beautiful A5 will be winging its way to Norway shortly and after several attempts now I've realised that one is perfect for me, so the others will be going too. So **please** remind me of this if I start talking about buying any more.

On a final note, does anyone know more info about this model, for example what leather they're made from, when they were available or why they were made in the US? I'd love to find out a little more of their history.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/embracing-filofax-change-part-1.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/embracing-filofax-change-part-2.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/p/adspot.html>
4. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-qd-9dJpTdQ/UIq5ePdaVxI/AAAAAAAAA6k/ZQrMQG1tabo/s1600/P1030526.JPG>

5. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-wWN775iEPKQ/UIq5hRwDU3I/AAAAAAAAA6s/atCh7XD9ipU/s1600/P1030527.JPG>
6. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-T-XBj3YcN0o/UIq5rKWsY6I/AAAAAAAAA60/qCHBC7Tbqo8/s1600/P1030525.JPG>
7. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-l05gge3qXYM/UIsedKjLYJI/AAAAAAAAA7I/aEfK1AUd08g/s1600/P1030518.JPG>
8. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-f-dRx1f_5yo/UIsejA_mePI/AAAAAAAAA7Q/vna2wgzYPt4/s1600/P1030530.JPG
9. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-7JcN--vqi84/UIsgKcMuniI/AAAAAAAAA7c/Vy0J5KWo2pQ/s1600/P1030517.JPG>
10. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/a5-revisited.html>

Jotje (2012-11-07 03:48:51)

Anita, this binder looks absolutely gorgeous! I don't know much about its background, just some trivia: Diane Keaton seems to be a huge fan of the Ascot. In her movies she often has various Filofaxes "lingering" around the scenes. E.g. in *Something's Gonna Give*, she has 2 A5 Ascot-binders on her desk.

Did you browse the vintage catalogs on the Facebook page? Maybe there's an Ascot listed, which could give you a clue to its production year?

Jotje (2012-11-07 03:51:29)

Apparently our Philofaxy-reader (and blogger) Vanjilla knows more about the Ascot:

<http://vanjilla.blogspot.nl/2012/05/filofax-ascot-a5.html>

Ling (2012-11-07 04:58:39)

I tweeted about this yesterday, but I found an online store in the Netherlands which sells new, vintage Filofax and Succes binders. They've got the names all mixed up, but it might be worth it to look around, because there are some bargains. <http://venloffice.nl/list.php?path=31 &sort=Artikel &page=25>

Tim (2012-11-07 08:05:47)

I may be wrong but I have always assumed that the only time any Filofaxes were made in the USA was during the 1998 to 2001 period when the brand was owned by Californian-based competitor, Day Runner. After a short and torrid time, company ownership (but not manufacture) came back to the UK when Filofax was purchased by Letts, financed by Scottish venture capitalists Dunedin.

Angela Paperlovestory (2012-11-07 08:20:59)

Oh wow, this is beautiful! The leather definitely looks similar to the Osterleys I have and I am rather envious of your Ascot! x

Paul Taylor (2012-11-07 09:43:18)

I have often thought the Osterleys to be essentially another go at the Ascot since getting my own beautiful black A5 Ascot in mint condition from a very nice lady on eBay back in August. I've found the leather quite hard wearing so far (not showing any marks, and I don't treat it with any particularly special care), and the quality is superb. The only set of rings which work more nicely in my collection are those in my leather Duplex wallet, which dates from around the mid 80s I think - I don't own any modern Filos but those I've looked at in shops just don't seem anywhere near as well put together as my vintage ones. I have to say I'm jealous of the ring protectors in your personal though - the A5 Ascot hasn't got them! Maybe I shall be looking for a personal to complete the set...

Maus (2012-11-07 10:27:00)

Oh Anita, what a wonderful post!!!

And I'm so happy to see you being so much in love with it!!! :-)

So enjoy it!!!

Best, Renate

Cheryl (2012-11-07 11:11:26)

It's a beauty! Love all those card pockets and the position they are in. And sometimes black is just the perfect color for certain binders. I was all about color until I got my black compact chameleon and I love it. My black Holborn is due today...listening for the FedEx truck as I type, lol. Never thought I'd have 2 black binders but

sometimes its the only choice and other times it is the right choice. Enjoy yours!

Cheryl (2012-11-07 13:05:40)

FedEx just left; got the Holborn. It's soft. It's got lots of pockets. The rings seems to be aligned. Score. But, it's black and it's...boring. I don't know. Maybe I should have kept the black Malden. But I wanted the grey and it wasn't on offer so thought I'd try the Holborn (which was on offer). I have a headache...lol

Frederique (2012-11-07 13:11:56)

There's a personal ascot on ebay.de at this very moment; shipping to the UK and Germany...

http://www.ebay.de/itm/Rare-Black-Croc-Effect-Ascot-Personal-Filofax-/261123269980?pt=UK_&BOI_&Office_&Office_Supplies_&Stationery_ET_&hash=item3ccc28e55c#ht_468wt_68

For those of you who might be interested, it currently bids at 15 GBP (approx. 20 EUR), and the auction ends in a day and a half.

Ready, steady... GO!

Frederique (2012-11-07 13:37:58)

Bargains indeed : lots (!) of Balmoral (pockets, and even two M2, in black and in red!), a personal almond amazon, a Cross M2 in black, and so on. Oh, the temptation :)

You're right, though : *none* of the Filofax binders have their proper names, but as we are more than Filofax-literate, it's easy to recognise models...

JJ Hitt (2012-11-07 20:49:00)

I have an Ascot Mini in Burgundy that I carry every day as a notebook. (I use a personal as my planner.) Very nice design. The only mini I have that is really small enough to fit in a man's shirt pocket.

Doris (2012-11-08 03:59:14)

Your comment made me laugh!! I can so totally relate when considering what binder I want (color, size, etc.)!

Doris (2012-11-08 04:04:22)

Lovely! I don't even think I saw this on Adspot, good find! I'm actually considering a vintage model as well, and because the colors would be limited, I'd probably get in in black, which would be refreshing after so much color.

Cloudberry (2012-11-08 08:33:56)

Fabulous binder. I'm looking for another FF to add to my vintage family and I think I might have just been enabled!

To simplify my life, I've increased my FF family to allow expansion into specific aspects of my Life-Grid.

Guest Post - Prachi - Paperchase Organiser (2012-11-08 00:00) - Steve Morton

Hello everyone, I'm Prachi. I'm 15 years old and I am from the UK. Since early summer, I've developed an obsession with planners and Filofaxes, fuelled of course by the wonderful Philofaxy and Plannerisms. I don't have a blog (though I'm considering starting one), so this is my first ever blog-style post, so bear with me if it isn't as great as Steve, Laurie, Nan and Anita's posts!

I recently experienced Planner Fail with my pay-per-page planner, so I needed a change. I wanted a Filofax, but I can't quite afford one and it's not my birthday any time soon, nor could I have waited until Christmas, so, I bought a mini organiser from Paperchase. It's the same as Filofax's pocket size. If it all works (which so far, it is), I'll upgrade to the real deal!

So, here it is!



[1]

I fell in love with the colour, and the design is rather cute and at £11 it was a steal! In the pen loop I've got a mechanical pencil (also from Paperchase), and I prefer using this as I can erase things easily, and there's no worries about bleed through or feathering. This is what you see when it's opened up.



[2]

The card slots are currently empty, but I'm going to put in my library card and when school starts again I expect the pockets will be brimming with bits and bobs. The insert is also Paperchase, and came with the diary. It was mid-year (July 2012 to December 2013) but I took lots out and re-arranged it all to my suiting. There's also a larger flap/pocket at the back.



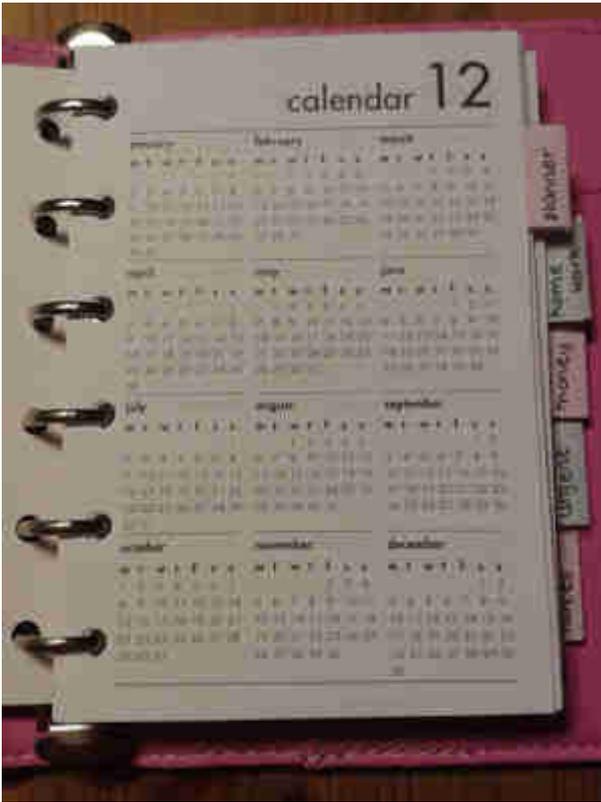
[3]

I know that if I don't designate a use for it, it'll be full of junk which will just accumulate, so I've decided that any letters that need to be taken home will be folded in four and slotted in there so I don't lose them. The diary insert came with the following tabs: Information, Planner, Diary, Agenda, Addresses and Notes. I wanted to use them so much as they were multi-coloured and very pretty, but I could not for the life of me differentiate between Planner, Diary and Agenda – what would I put in all three?! And besides, I envisaged having different tabs, so I changed it all around.



[4]

So, my current tabs setup is: Information, Planner, Homework, Money, Urgent and Notes. I'll go through each section step-by-step and show you what I do. Below is the Information section.



[5]

It starts with a yearly overview – this is just for reference, though I’m considering circling birthdays or something on it.

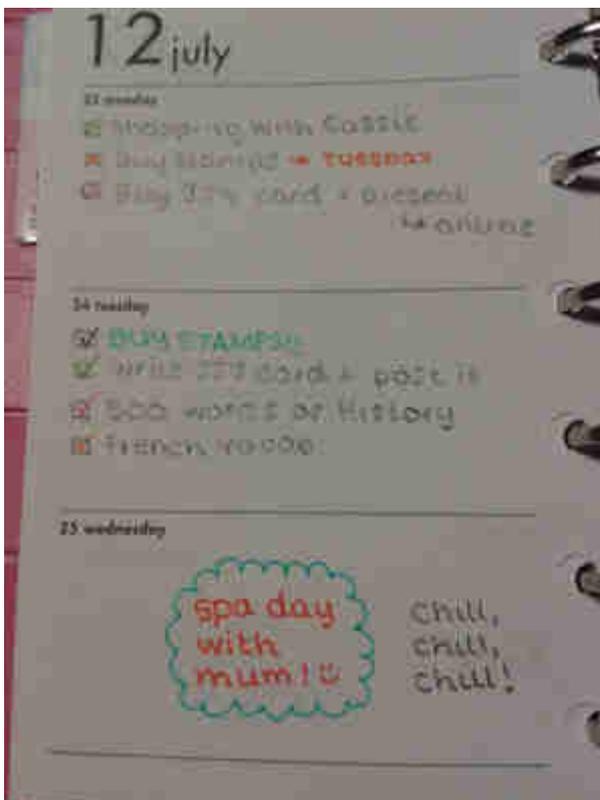


[6]

Over the page are the 2013 overview and my school timetable. I’ve put in a blank one, so you don’t see the actual one...not that you’re like that but we never know who else is trawling the Internet! That’s all that’s under this tab; I’m going with the flow because I don’t want to overstuff the binder. Next up is the Planner tab. The first picture is a weekly spread and the second is the Monday-Wednesday part closer up so you can read it.

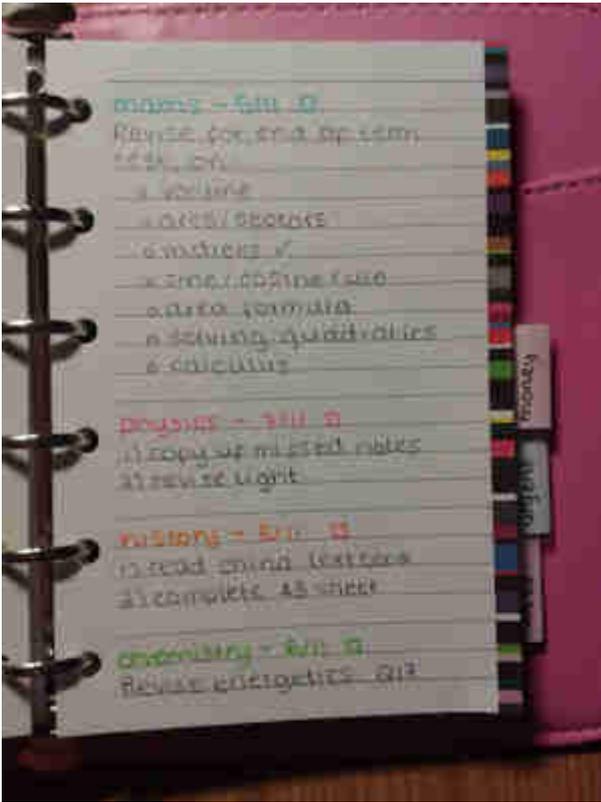


[7]



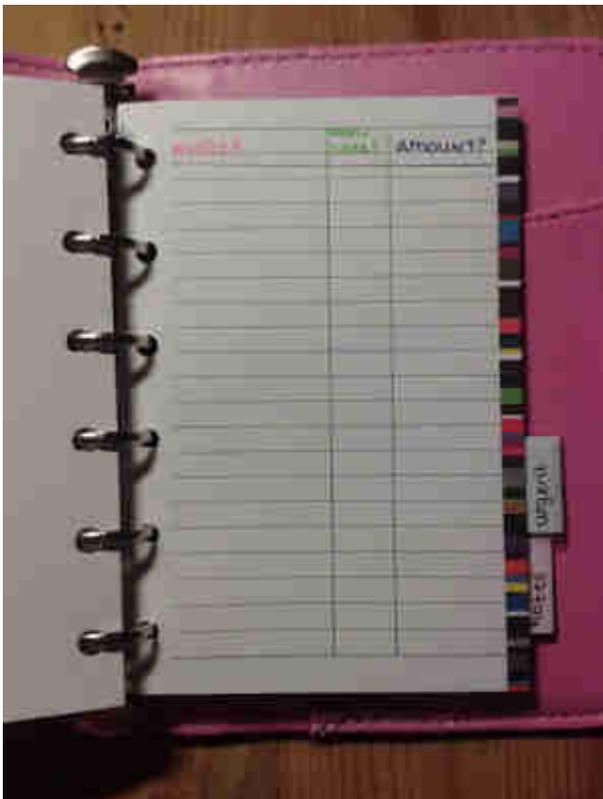
[8]

This is an example week, because I'm on half-term right now, so my planner isn't too exciting. I write most stuff in pencil because it's always to hand and can be erased if things change. The majority of things that have to be done are next to a tick box, because I find it really satisfying to tick a task off when I've done it. I also tick it in a pretty colour! If a task isn't done I put a cross in the box, and draw an arrow next to it and write the day it has been transferred to. It gets written in capital letters and colour on the new date because it's a priority. If something special is happening that day, a birthday for example, then it is written in a colour and has a little bubble around it. By the way, I use Staedtler Triplus Fineliners – I love them and I've got the 20-pack! After the Planner, I've got a tab for Homework.



[9]

This isn't space in the daily boxes to write the details of homework, so I write it on lined notepaper, which I bought 50 sheets of for £1.50 at Paperchase. The subject, due date and tick box are all written in a bright colour, and then the details of what I have to do in pencil underneath. If a task has more than one part, I tick each part when it's done and then the homework as a whole when all parts are completed. I then have a tab for Money.



[10]

This is a self-drawn sheet where I track my spending by writing what I've bought, whether I paid by cash or card, and how much it cost.

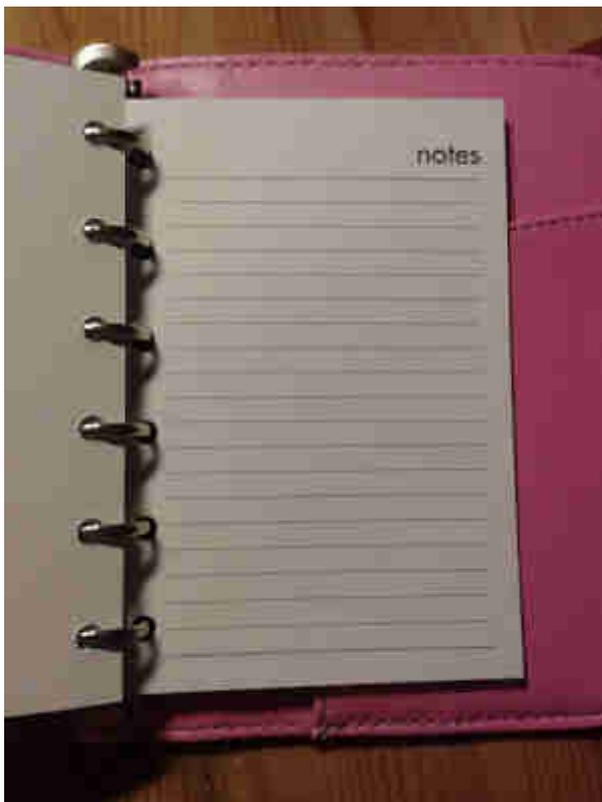
The tab after this is labelled Urgent. I haven't seen anyone else do it, but I find that it really helps me.



[11]

It's quite simple really. One sheet of blue lined notepaper, and when there is an urgent task I write it on a cupcake post-it note and pop it on the paper. This makes it really, really stand out. I've made it a habit to check this every morning and evening, so as to remind me if there's anything that's super important to do.

Finally, we have the Notes tab.



[12]

Nothing special, just any notes like emails or mobile numbers that I've jotted down.

So, that's my little organiser! I hoped you liked looking at her, and that maybe, just maybe, I've inspired you to do something with your own! J

Thank you Prachi for your Guest Post, do update us on how your set up is working out. And we look forward to featuring your new [13]blog too

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-6ksv-mD--fQ/UI2QuCMcgiI/AAAAAAAAAN10/DrMRMIGs7EI/s1600/Picture+1.jpg>
2. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-g4a-ytY4Lv8/UI2QyYg-AQI/AAAAAAAAAN2Q/aR7f2j75FFc/s1600/Picture+2.jpg>
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-X48kzmAPtoI/UI2QzKYNAEI/AAAAAAAAAN2Y/Zk_CzzXuEDE/s1600/Picture+3.jpg
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11. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-pu6fue_s9MQ/UI2QwVJILDI/AAAAAAAAAN2E/q4Aoh1z9Vts/s1600/Picture+11.jpg
12. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-N1y2F3aWo50/UI2QxMcILaI/AAAAAAAAAN2M/Yb7G3Ejyf3k/s1600/Picture+12.jpg>
13. <http://paperplanethinking.blogspot.com/>

Suzee Neal (2012-11-08 00:44:51)

Hi Prachi! I love your lovely little planner! I love pink =0)

You did a wonderful job on your planner and excellent layout with your adorable hand writing. I like your tick off boxes as I do that too.

You should get your blog ! You do very well with writing this post.

Just a suggestion if you would like to use a pen, I use a Pilot Frixion gel pen. (if they are available in the UK?) They 'erase' and I've not had any problems with them. And come in pretty colors =)

WeirdRockStar (2012-11-08 00:55:49)

You blogged like a seasoned blogger already so I too would vote for a blog of your own, if that is what you have time and interest for. It was lovely to see how neat and organized you obviously are. Great post!

EmmaNoey (2012-11-08 01:09:00)

The Urgent section is a great idea; I really like that.

mlblog (2012-11-08 01:09:11)

Well written Prachi. Yes you should definitely start your own blog :)

Cute planner and great tabbed sections.

Hope you get a real FF soon!

ML

mluisblog.blogspot.com.au

Prachi (2012-11-08 01:31:57)

Thanks to everyone who said I should start my own blog! After writing this post I was itching to write more, so I do have a blog now. It's called:

paperplanethinking.blogspot.com

Tim (2012-11-08 04:03:47)

Well done Prachi! My daughters (14 and 12) are always keen to get better organised. Your experiences (being a similar age) will hopefully be more motivating for them than listening to their old dad!

Laurie (2012-11-08 04:43:43)

I LOVE the color and design of your binder! Great pocket configuration in there too. Thanks so much for showing us your setup! :)

And, I love your blog!

Deborah- Jane (2012-11-08 04:48:47)

A very good maiden blog...

Alison Reeves (2012-11-08 05:33:51)

Oh, I think my post disappeared! Very good blog Prachi - well written and I thought you have put together your binder very well. I picked up a couple of great ideas for my own use.

Suus S (2012-11-08 08:07:31)

Very cute, nice planner. I love the design. And the layout of the planner is great. Nice ideas for my one Malden 'Emma'. I also use the paper from paperchase. It is nice paper and not that expensive. Keep on going!

Louloudorset (2012-11-08 08:22:51)

Great blog post and lovely lovely planner! I love the layout I may steal some of your ideas for my own Filofax :) Lx

Storm Bunny (2012-11-08 08:29:06)

Lovely post! I enjoyed reading it very much ^_^, so I'm looking forward to dig into your blog and read more. Your planner is very beautiful as well, and the way you've arranged it is also quite neat. About the Urgent segment, I've seen people use it up in the front of the filofax on a flyleaf or some other sturdy plastic sheet, where they stick post its. That system is great for people who tend to forget things.

As for planner-agenda-diaries, I've heard of people who use "diary" as a journal, "planner" in monthly spread to include schedules and "agenda" for appointments or weekly-daily breakdown.

Kelly Marriott (2012-11-08 08:36:13)

Great post! Totally off topic: Filofax US has some filofax on sale for 40 % off. Ends today. I got a lovely orchid Aston! There isn't a huge selection, but it's worth checking out!

Maria (2012-11-08 09:39:42)

Lovely post! I will read your blog :-)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-11-08 09:53:47)

Prachi, I loved your post! The planner is set up so nice and I like your urgent tab a lot! Love the design on the cover and the color - and all you've done with it.

It was a great blog post, especially for a first one :)

Tracy

Alice Dial (2012-11-08 10:42:17)

Prachi-What a delightful blog!! I really enjoy your ideas and writing style! Great hints and new ideas!!

There is no doubt in my mind that you will go far in life. Your current insights into planning and organizing will follow you throughout your life with school, college, job and your own family life. I am VERY impressed! Keep at it, and always remember to keep it fun! I've used a planner since before I could write (I pretended I could write), and it's still fun for me to pull out my organizer and "play"-er, plan my day.

Prachi (2012-11-08 12:06:11)

Yes I've heard lots about those, and I've tried them once, but I'm very picky, and my handwriting isn't that nice in them...): but thank you!

Prachi (2012-11-08 12:06:41)

Aww thank you Laurie :) I love Plannerisms so much! :)

Prachi (2012-11-08 12:07:49)

Thank you everyone for all your encouraging comments! I'm glad I started paperplane thinking now! :)

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-11-08 12:15:31)

Awesome post. So impressed! I'll check out your new blog as soon as I can.

fourfernskknitsandcloth (2012-11-08 13:24:43)

Really nice!! Good for you - finding something that works for you is hard to do!

Valerie (2012-11-08 15:35:24)

Thoroughly enjoyed reading your post..your planner is as cute as can be,too! Good job!

Lily (2012-11-08 15:51:09)

If there's a Muji store near you you could try their erasable gel pens? I love them, they're £2 each but come in pretty colours and they make my handwriting really nice

LJ (2012-11-10 01:39:18)

Lovely planner and a great layout. It looks great. :-)

Free For All Friday No. 208 (2012-11-09 00:00) - Laurie

There's been lots of Planner Fail lately. I keep hearing about people tweaking their systems, trying new diary formats or even a different size from what they were using before.

Some people are dissatisfied with what they used this year and are looking for something better for next year. Other people have a change in circumstances (workload etc.) and are looking for an immediate solution.

Are you experiencing Planner Fail? Let us know and maybe people will have some suggestions for you.

And as always on Fridays, feel free to discuss any ring-binder related topics.

Happy Friday everyone!

indigogarden (2012-11-09 02:17:12)

I actually have been rather happy with both my binders. My writing journal Malden Personal Filofax has worked out well and I bought the same system as last year for its diary. I'm putting in a similar section of research notes for this year's Nanowrimo project. I am dropping the MO2P for tracking my word count, since I'm now doing it on the WO2Ps and feel that I'm motivated without it. I don't really view this as a failure though.

My other binder is a Slimline Holborn and it is now my wallet/travel binder. I don't carry a diary in it and don't miss it there. I use ToDo pages, note pages for lists, a phone directory and general wallet items. So far it is working out great, except that I've had it mistaken for a book on more than one occasion because of its size.

Maybe I'm the only one left who is happy with her filofaxes, although I guess I got lucky and my two binders both came with excellent rings and impeccable leather coverings. After hearing all the complaints, I'm rather hesitant to buy a 3rd Filofax at this time.

Clareio (2012-11-09 03:13:03)

I'm still as in love with my Holborn as when I first got it and the week on one page with notes diary is working perfectly at the moment due to the fact that I don't use it to track work and most of my to-do's are weekly, it also gives me space to note down what parcels I should receive that week and tick off when I get them... in fact I put very little other than appointments and the odd day-specific to-do in the dated side!

I fully intend to use this next year as it's proving perfect for everything I currently have going on.. colour

coded to-do's happen some times when i can be bothered to find other pens but generally I just go through everything

Jennie Claesson (2012-11-09 03:46:59)

I'm going back to Filofax much thanks to you! Discovered this blog recently and have been consulting it every day since. I was going to treat myself to a Personal Malden in Vintage Pink but they were sold out (and discontinued as I'm sure all of you already knew), and as much as I love purple, it didn't feel right. I have the Purple Malden folio in A4 though and it's wonderful.

Sooo, after nearly three years using other planners, I dug out my Personal Hamilton last night. This is how I discovered how long it's been as it's filled with the 2009 diary. I still love all its features, it's well-loved but that only adds character and now I can't wait to set it up for my new needs! I have been collecting tips from here and have tons of new tricks to try out. I'm sure it will work a charm!

Thank you everyone for your inspiration!

Jennie in Mölnlycke, Sweden

Suus S (2012-11-09 03:49:12)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Jennie Claesson (2012-11-09 03:52:23)

Oh, and I'm going to try on day per page for the first time in my life! I've used one week to an opening before but now I can't fit everything. Also I get stressed looking at the whole congested week when it's only Tuesday. This way I hope I can turn a page and feel I've completed something, and focus on one day at a time. I lose the overview but there are plenty of other inserts for that! We'll see how I go. :)

natalie (2012-11-09 03:54:19)

Is changing your system Planner Fail?

As someone who has recently come back to paper and pen after five years of trying to use ONLY tech planning, I have the standard A5 Filofax-issue vertical week on two pages diary. I've tried this for a couple of weeks and have pretty much decided that my appointments could easily be put on a month-on-two-pages spread, so I will probably repurpose the "diary" as a food record. I won't need to carry more than a weeks worth of diary since food recording is just that, recording, no need to look ahead.

Is this Fail? Surely it's just what ring bound systems were designed to do. It's what makes them so flexible.

I can see how investing in a bound system and then deciding that you have made the wrong choice a few months later is more problematic, but a diary can be used for so much more than just appointments.

Size. Trickier. I plumped for A5 and I'm happy with it. Most of my Inserts were downloaded from Philofaxy or designed by me, so there isn't much financial investment after the initial purchase. There's a lot to be said for a ream of paper and a pen and ruler.

Jotje (2012-11-09 04:10:29)

No planner fail here either, though I did switch from my A5 Malden to a Compact Franklincovey with FC inserts. It's not that my Malden stopped working, but the workload decreased when one of our huge projects was concluded.

I'm superduper happy in my FC, it even doubles as a wallet! I now have everything in one planner.

I still have dedicated A5 Filofaxes, so I haven't turned my back on FF entirely. My dedicated binders are: record keeper on school stuff of my kids; address book, note book for specific projects.

Jotje (2012-11-09 04:11:07)

Forgot to add that I also have an A5 Domino as my Leonie Goddess binder! ;-)

Suus S (2012-11-09 04:19:44)

I use two planners: my Personal Malden for my private appointments, to do's (work and home), expenses (with the expenses envelope of Ray), etc. etc. and (o, god, should I say this) I use an Extra-large Moleskine planner.

I have always have a Filofax. As a student I first had a fake Filofax, but after my student years I got the Filofax graphic grey Personal. Very nice and I still have it. But I start carrying more papers and I did not have a puncher

for the Graphic so I switched to the Moleskine (don't kill me!!!) and also a PDA. I am definitely not an electronic girl. I love pen and paper, so I switched totally to the paper planner. And I was happy with the Moleskine, but again, the caring of loose paper problems arise again. I was looking at the Filo again, but there is no love with the binder. I both a Slimmer Personal. I love it, but the rings, too small. So back to the Moleskine. And then, just by coincident I came across this site and a totally Filofax commune. I always thought that I was the only one with a planner/paper/pen love. And the ideas here make me rethink my planners. So for the past two weeks I got myself a beautiful purple Malden Personal 'Emma'.

I use 'Emma' together with mine Moleskine Extra-large. I am still looking for an A5. In the Moleskine (the one week on a page and a note page) I add all mine to do's for the week (from mine Malden) to the note page in the Moleskine. I have in one glance all mine to do's for the work week. I color code everything: when it is done, or still in process (waiting for-status). This information I also transfer to the Malden at the end of the week. On Sunday I go through both planners to see what has to be done and do the planning for the week. I am using this system for two weeks now and I must say it works.

I was a little bit concerned in using two planners, but I love the Moleskine paper more than the Filofax. But I adore 'Emma'. The A5 Malden is very, very nice, but a little bit expensive. So I am waiting for a nice deal and then I can put the Moleskine in the A5. Best of both worlds.

Helen Conway (2012-11-09 04:25:50)

I thought I had solved my Planner fail but now I have Planner Dilemma, which I think is different:

I have a personal for my day to day planner. It has a Monthly weekly and daily view. That works for me but the fail was that I used home printed inserts for the day and it took me an age to print them and they always looked homemade and I tended to get them slightly out of alignment when I punched them and - yuk! But I now have the French day on two pages for next year and a brand new Regency compact and its all set up to go.

In my Blog Planner A5 I have a self printed MOTP to schedule posts that works fine and in my Studio Planner I have bought a WOTP rather than noticing times on lined notepaper so that's fine. For work I have been trialing a page on one day on blank paper and that's working well so I have an A5 WH Smith/Letts bound diary with cream lined pages I have hacked apart for next year. So I am all set up and ready to go for 2013.

Then yesterday the Grey Malden I bought on Adspot came (its far more gorgeous than I thought from photos never having seen a grey in person) and it included Personal-planner UK inserts. I had never heard of them until the seller told me she would send them. They are spiral bound products you can order from www.personal-planner.co.uk and when you order you can customise format and content. In the Filo they therefore have extra holes and have been repunched but that does not detract at all. I really like the paper, the design, the colours and I want to use them very much. But the format of appointments in vertical columns is not what I personally would have chosen and its not obvious to me how to use them.

So, not fail but Dilemma caused by extra choice!! And a desire to go and buy a set of personal-planner.uk inserts to my own design as well:)

Alison Reeves (2012-11-09 04:54:21)

I've recently discovered the joy of using a personal which means I can carry it around with me. I have a dilemma though. I really do get 'planner envy' when I look at other peoples set up. I am using a home printed week on one page with notes (I think Steve and Ray call it weekly TM view) and I customised it with colour etc and printed it on cream paper. Really delighted with it. However my dilemma is whether to add day per page to the mix. I do still miss small tasks todo on a daily basis - I keep all my personal and work projects listed in the week view, but it depends on how granular I wish to become. I don't have a good history of keeping daily pages which is probably why I'm not as organised as I should be!

Alison Reeves (2012-11-09 04:55:21)

Actually I'm toying with resurrecting my A5 'home' binder and listing daily tasks in there. We'll see!

acclair (2012-11-09 06:36:14)

I've been off and on the bloggersphere recently so I don't know if someone has already mentioned this...

I signed up to the Filofax focus group they have on their website last month. A fortnight ago I received an email from someone at Filofax asking me to take part in a discussion with their research company. I agreed

and the next day I was on the phone for half an hour discussing the recent disappointments we have felt in Filofax, the quality lacking, the silly designers and the fashionista angle. It was all taken on board, but the most interesting thing to me was that the guy on the phone said he had heard this view from almost everyone he had spoken to so far. The research company Filofax have hired know how we are feeling in regards to the more fashion/less quality angle, and the general feeling that Filofax are ignoring not only their current customer base, but their biggest online resource - Philofaxy. The conversation felt me feeling excited and felt that for once we were being listened to. The research company were due to compile a report and present it to key figures at Filofax last week. My friends, we may see some positive changes happening next year. If not, and they continue to ignore what their customer base is saying, then I may just reconsider my brand loyalty...

Doris (2012-11-09 06:45:28)

I'm happy with my current set-up – Personal and Compact combo – but now feel bad that my Pockets are being neglected.

Diary Dilemma has been solved with Cotton Cream WO2P which I'm looking forward to using for 2013. I love that Sat/Sun have equal spacing!

David Popely (2012-11-09 06:59:54)

I'm happy to report no planner fail here....my system still jogs along happily coping with the large number of projects and tasks I throw at it. Most of all I'm happy with my decision to use only lined paper (no fancy printed inserts apart from the diary), since I can use cotton cream throughout, and always pick up a refill when passing a Paperchase if I need one, at minimal cost. And I don't have to keep reams of different inserts in a drawer, so most of my previous stash is now with Fiona in Oz!

The only area where I'm undecided for 2013 is diary format, but I din't regard that as Fail, just as not yet decided....

David Popely (2012-11-09 07:06:54)

It's now official that we will be moving back to Somerset, England in February. We're renting the world's smallest cottage, so this represents a great opportunity for some radical simplification and 'going minimalist', both things which have been only mind since I first read John Lane's writing about 3-4 years ago, and since I discovered Leo Babauta's excellent blogs.

This is going to be a real, serious, no-holds-barred life simplification, and nothing is off-limits. I'll certainly be getting rid of all but one of my Filofax binders, so if anyone is in the market, email me. Additionally, I'll be disposing of my lovely black leather Time Manager binder, so ditto on that. I have a bunch of inserts to go with it, and the manual (original, hard copy), but no 2013 refills, and it could do with a new set of section dividers. Otherwise it's perfect and has served me well for over 15 years.

Meanwhile, the Chosen One (the Filofax which will remain post-move) is filling up with move-related tasks.....I'm so happy I have a working system!

Part of our move will include going off-grid so far as social media are concerned, and we won't be having hot and cold running broadband in the cottage, so I'll be picking up email on my BlackBerry and occasionally on a wireless dongle, so I probably won't be so omnipresent on message boards and websites - but this is a great move for us and we're really looking forward to it.....

Tim (2012-11-09 07:17:35)

Call me a cynic, but I think this sudden change of heart is largely down to their grim financial situation, falling sales and profits and the fact that the company is up for sale. There's certainly a great future for paper planners, but it will be as an increasingly niche product (sorry guys!). Sadly Letts Filofax have continued to assume for too long, that they can bombard the market with bulk sales of (too often) inferior quality products at inflated prices. Well that's my view anyway!

The biggest change we will see next year will be new owners. Whether that will be a positive change will be interesting. I predict a very severe pruning of the current ranges, but with a return to quality workmanship and the more traditional values that Filofax was build upon.

Marisa Brockett (2012-11-09 07:22:10)

Anyone know ho to remove an ink mark from a Domino cover? :*(

PaperMeister (2012-11-09 07:26:43)

I saw the posting in the AdSpot for a Rio. I'm not familiar with this model.

Can anyone tell me anything about it?

Happy Friday,

PM

Suzee Neal (2012-11-09 07:27:24)

I'm a new FF user. I have a Holborn personal and a Holborn pocket. LOfve them both. Before I was using a Day Planner brand binder which on the outside looks almost twin to my Holborn, I wasn't able to move my pages and inserts over to the FF as I was using my own made weekly views and they were too wide . I was scared to use the more narrow pages of the FF but after a few days with it I found Oh,, this does work,and doesn't stick out of the side of the binder. I think I like the weekly views it came with but I am writing the days of the week in colored and using a highlighter to draw lines between the days.. So considering to make my own pages as I like color. Should I just keep using the pages it came with and writing over the days? I don't know lol I'm still sorting out how my layout I want to be. I bought a laminate machine and waiting for it to arrive. I like the idea of making my own dividers all prettied up =) Then I had to buy a small label maker to mark the dividers!!! I tell you this can be very expensive hobby. Some of my friends don't get it. I just smile and say well its not like its YOUR money I'm using! lol My husband just shakes his head...

I'm looking at some Slimlines and want to use it for a checkbook / finance binder. and to carry with me. I never carry my personal FF with me. I'm usually at home anyways.

I love seeing everyone's layouts and think OH I want it that way for me. Then I decided I want to just take it a day at a time and it will work itself out. I use stickers, markers,colored gel pens, stamps, and washi tape so my layout will end up being colorful and ME at the end of the week!

acclair (2012-11-09 07:33:25)

Cynic! :) No seriously, I agree with you about their financial situation and it spurring this kind of research along. I'm just glad to see them contacting customers for opinions. I myself have encountered many companies who don't ask, but prefer to stick thier heads in the sand, pretending everything is ok.

natalie (2012-11-09 07:39:30)

Have you read The 100 Thing Challenge? Interesting read.

I can't see how to email you.

Do you still have the A5 Hampstead?

natalie at theyarnyard dot co dot uk

Helen Conway (2012-11-09 07:50:28)

what models do you have that you will not be keeping?

Suus S (2012-11-09 07:52:03)

I am looking for an A5 model. Do you have one? And what is the color?

Suus S (2012-11-09 07:54:53)

Here are some tips I found on the internet: <http://laundry.about.com/od/stainremoval/a/leatherinkremov.htm>.

Good luck!

David Popely (2012-11-09 07:56:08)

I've got an A5 Kendal in brown (nearly new), a black A5 Finsbury (as new), both of which will be going, plus two Personals, a vintage Hampstead and an ochre Malden, one of which will be going. If you're interested, email me davidpopely (at) googlemail (dot) com - I'm sure we can sort something out....

Tim (2012-11-09 08:13:06)

Good luck David! This minimalist idea is interesting and I'll read your suggestions. There's no greater horder than me!

We are this very day moving house ourselves. We've built ourselves a new eco-cottage in the grounds of the big house that we let for self-catering holidays (on the edge of Ilkley Moor). We're been moving everything ourselves - over a period of weeks! I've been truly staggered at how much stuff we've acquired over the years. Most of it we never use. But could I get rid of it. I doubt it!

David Popely (2012-11-09 08:20:42)

Good luck with the eco-cottage Tim! A good part of this for us is about living more 'lightly' - you're right about the staggering amount of 'stuff' we accumulate. We'll be employing professional movers when the time comes, but also leaving a bunch of stuff which won't fit in the cottage (which is a lot) here in the Wales house and disposing of it by instalments. We've had the simplification goal on our minds for a couple of years at least, so its good to be finally in a position to do something about it.....

Neil (2012-11-09 09:41:59)

Tim, I fear that nothing will change at Filofax until Letts is no longer in the picture. Perhaps the biggest "planner fail" is Filofax themselves.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-11-09 10:39:45)

I've been using FC compact for the last 20 years and was definitely experiencing planner fail. So I decided it was time for a change and I made the switch to Filofax. I'm still in the process of setting things up - it took me a long time to set up my FC and it will take a while with the new system. I moved a few things out - including my financial information. I used to keep that in my FC compact but now I have it in a regular sized notebook on my desk. I didn't really need it in my planner anyway.

I'm using the FF 2ppd and LOVE them! I love the fact that there are 10 boxes for to do's. I get overwhelmed easily and have in the past limited my list to 10 things. It helps me decide what's most important instead of making an endless list. So when I saw the 2ppd with 10, it seemed meant to be.

I purchased a personal Malden earlier this year but decided I would be happier with a personal Holborn. It arrived yesterday and I'm hoping to spend some quality time with it today. I'm going to use the Malden as my blog planner and it will live on my desk. I had been trying to combine the two but there's not really room. I've never had two books going before but I think it will work out well.

Oh, another reason I switched to FF was because I've been downsizing things. I switched from a larger purse to a smaller one and have LOVED that. My FC compact has 1.25 inch rings and is actually pretty heavy and bulky. I can fit it in a purse but it makes it really heavy. The personal Malden fits in my small purse (barely) if I need it to but doesn't make it painful to carry. I'm really liking that!

adekku (2012-11-09 13:13:48)

Hi everyone. I'm a new Filofax user. I read philofaxy everyday! I love it! I own a personal butterfly pewter which I ordered from Filofax France when it was on sale. I put my life in this binder. It has become one of the most important things in my life. Now I want an A5 Adelphi for work. I read in allthingsstationery blogpost that TK Maxx has this binder on sale. I am wondering whether anyone can help me to purchase and ship this for me. Of course I'll reimburse all the costs... Plus agent fee ;) We don't have any store selling Filofax in my country so I badly need your help. adekku[at]gmail[dot]com

Ro (2012-11-09 13:49:36)

We became minimalists last year, and downsized our household goods (got rid of about two thirds of all our possessions) and moved to a much smaller home (one third the size). It is a major life change, but all for the good. Can't wait to hear what you think as you make the move. Good luck and best wishes!

David Popely (2012-11-09 14:11:08)

Hi Ro

It's something we've been wanting to do for a long time, only somehow ended up buying a place twice the size of

our last one and filling it with Stuff - this is our radical realignment!

I was thinking of making a series of blog posts about it, but part of our plan is to be far less Web dependent - we won't be getting in-house broadband or a landline in the cottage, so we'll be dropping off the majority of social media. I'll be getting my email twice a day, through a wireless dongle, and we reckon that's plenty. I'm definitely keeping my One True Filofax though.....)

Frederique (2012-11-09 14:18:06)

I am not suffering from a planner-fail, but from a planning-fail : my life is (very) simple, no children, 9-5 job, not a very busy social life, and it's been more and more obvious that I'm complicating my life trying to organize it. Reading about time management, gtd, flylady, etc, and trying to include these concepts in my life, has been frustrating : my existing system was working well, no real need to change it...

Furthermore, as it's autumn/winter, my jackets have enough pockets to carry the bare essentials (very slim purse, two keys, tissues, cell phone), I don't have my bag anymore, and my filo sits at my desk at home; unused, not looked at since the boyfriend and I share a simple wall calendar for our few appointments and reminders. Worst thing ? I don't even miss it :(

Therefore, I'm thinking of letting go of my latest purchase, my first "real" leather "grown-up" filofax, a beautiful compact osterley, in plum...

If I wanted to try and use a filo again, i could simply go back into my first one, a blue "college" that my mom gave me as a gift for my 18th birthday, it holds everything I could think of (and now, this content is spread between two binders, urgh).

Funny, Alice (from the wonderful life of alice) has an osterley on her wish list. I'll wait to hear from her first, but any of you who might be interested in purchasing a barely used compact osterley in plum from someone in France, well, contact me at 702723@gmail.com :)

Tim (2012-11-09 14:24:19)

Just had a quick look at "The 100 Thing Challenge". It's about living life with less than one hundred possessions in total. For sustainable living, that's a great aim for all of us. However, given the number of Filofaxes that the typical Philofaxer owns, that could be a real challenge in itself!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-11-09 14:34:38)

So sorry you've struggled by over-complicating things. I've done that, too. Remember that old saying: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it"! So true! Glad you figured things out.

Alison (2012-11-09 15:08:49)

I've no chance I have more than 100 things in my stationary cupboard, probably the same amount in my wardrobe :-(

Alison (2012-11-09 15:13:23)

I'm not suffering from planner fail as such, I just think the problem is me not the planner, i've over complicated things and haven't been giving my planner much attention lately which goes for most things right now, my blog, reading, the house etc

I just need some me time to work on my A5 Holborn Zip which is my Home Filofax.

My Slimline Holborn take everywhere Filofax is still working well for now :-)

Savannah (2012-11-09 15:50:47)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-09 16:53:37)

I'd love to be more minimalistic - I love it when I am on holiday and I have few possessions with me! I have loads to sell and get rid of - I'm just struggling to find the time to sell it on ebay.

David - my business could not exist without broadband, and my customers would not put up with contact only twice a day. When I got back from my meeting this afternoon I had several emails, one with a 15mb attachment which I couldn't handle without broadband.

I have read Leo's blog for a long time - whilst I admire him and his thoughts - I couldn't go quite as far as he

does! But I think some minimalism in our material world is a great ambition!

Emma Hancock (2012-11-09 17:16:34)

I've only just broken into the extensive world of the Filofax with a Personal Portland that is quite possibly older than myself, and so far I'm loving it! I've already found it to be useful for keeping track of my shifts at work, and when they've failed to pay me for overtime.

However, I am still struggling with a significant amount of planner fail. While my work calendar and contacts are coming together nicely, I'm yet to fully achieve even a basic level of organisation for the rest of my life, like blog posts, Christmas shopping, and general creative projects.

As a design graduate, I'd love to use my Filo to plan and organise my design 'work' (no one seems to like paying for work done by a graduate these days, or even consider it to be real work!). I'm already considering expanding into an A5 or A4 for more in depth work, but I'm finding it hard to get the ball rolling with my little Personal Portland.

Any advice, oh wise sages of the Filofax?

Helen Conway (2012-11-09 17:39:18)

I have a separate A5 for planning design work and another as a sketchbook. For some reason Blogger is refusing. Let me paste a link but if you search this blog for studio planner you will see my guest post.

Yu (2012-11-09 18:50:03)

This comment has been removed by the author.

roguexuk (2012-11-09 18:57:08)

I had two planner fails back in September.

For years I had been using a little slimline WHSmith week to view planner for logging my work hours. And in September it kind of hit me that I wasn't all organised - I never forgot any appointments, but I pretty much forgot everything else.

So I bought myself a large Peanuts Week plus notes Moleskine, which I loved - I was finally able to write notes for myself to remember things and tick them off when I was done. I was so happy with it that I went and bought the 2013 one too.

Then one week after I received the 2013 planner, my job changed completely, from 4 half days a week to 2 full days at different sites and taking on more of a senior role. I knew immediately that my Moleskine wouldn't work. I thought of Filofax, I had a mini Domino sitting in a box, but I knew that it would be way too small for what I wanted. Luckily that week I discovered Philofaxy, I trawled through all your reviews and decided on a Vintage Pink Personal Malden.

It worked out great for me, my personal life was recorded through Week on Two pages and my two work days, I'd just print some Day on Two Pages sheets for those days.

Then after three weeks, and more Philofaxy reading, I realised that the rings weren't aligned properly, so I had to put everything into my A5 Domino (my Household planner) and use that for a week whilst Filofax tried to repair it..... Alas they couldn't, so I chose a Compact Holborn in Wine as a replacement.

I had to pare down the contents a bit, but it's working out really well. I have about 6 months of week on two pages, and two weeks of two days worth or day on two pages. Plus various information sheets that I can't live without. Also, it's my birthday next week and I've asked for a Personal Holborn in Wine - just in case I need the space ;)

WeirdRockStar (2012-11-10 04:31:16)

Late to the party but here we go...

I've enjoyed planner- success this year since I got a grab of the Perfect Alignment concerning my beloved Balmoral. The key is, to have everything on sight in one flap. That's it. To do lists on the other, diary on the other sheet. I have certain (like cleaning tasks and mealplans) on post- its to allow more space to evolve as the week goes by yet I do make markings what I already have accomplished and then I do a certain sort of a sit- down with myself to review the day and check out the other day ahead. This is also a fantastic time to give oneself a pat on the back. How often do we perform without stopping to take a look of how much is already been done.

Now, however I feel a ? arising on my knob. What I do love about Filofax is the ability to shove paper around, at

will. Every day I seem to snap the binder open and close it to insert a to do to the opposite side of diary. This is at least 400 snaps times two yearly (sometimes I need two sheets. My lists are almost legendary during certain days) I would imagine that during the two-ish decades I've used the Balmoral this is a fair amount of snapping. Snappish existence, so to speak. Just how dim of a person one is to not print a diary on the one side of sheet and then leave the other side blank?!? That way there'd be a list- space readily on the other side. And a space for random doodlings. Well, this would increase the bulk volume of already a hefty A5. How about just using a paperclip to attach a to do on the opposite page instead? I think I'll see if this one works- and holds and then make up my mind about it.

All this rambling was more verbal thinking more than anything else.

MTMTE (2012-11-10 05:30:30)

Hah, yes I've discovered this secret also: if I don't see it when I open it to my current day, then I don't see it all day. The whole point of me keepng a written diary is that I get it out of my head and trust the paper to remember it for me. How can I be expected to remember that I've written a reminder further along in the set-up??

After...I wouldn't call it planner-fail, I'm calling it planner-experimentation...I've discovered the best set-up for me. I've tried just about every possible option at some point in the last two years and have realised that for me, it's a week-per-page with notes that suits my lifestyle best.

I can understand with a glance what my whole week will look like, which shifts I'm on, what I can do in the surrounding hours, and then what I need to do at some point based on the week's to-dos page.

Planner heaven. :) Plus with all the inspiration lately of home-made planners I've found my favourite font/size/ruling/colour combo :) My best advice for those experiencing planner fail is to observe what you use, what you instead need from it, and how to make what you need. All you'll need then is a custom-page-size template (Personal/A5) and some basic skills with tables and margin-setting on Word and you're good to go.

Jennie Claesson (2012-11-10 19:16:11)

As a response to your question, I don't see changing my system as planner fail. Consider it "any ring-binder related topic". I'm new here so I don't know your do's and don'ts.

Anita (2012-11-10 19:34:55)

Good luck with your move, David, & with the radical simplifying! I love my copy of Timeless Simplicity & reading Zen Habits too. Even though I love filofaxes I realise that owning more than one just isn't right for me :)

David Popely (2012-11-11 06:10:07)

Thanks Anita...I really appreciate that. John Jane's books have been a great influence since I discovered them in a bookshop in Totnes 5 or 6 years ago, and Timeless Simplicity is one of the very few books which I find myself re-reading on a regular basis. We're very excited about the opportunity to simplify in this way.

Hi Alison! Reading your comment reminded me of George Bernard Shaw's famous comment, which I will repeat here:-

"The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man."

Having only this week been told by a business-person that I am 'silly' for *not* leaving my business phone on all weekend and responding to client enquiries when I am on family time, I'm inclined to think that there is something wrong with the assumption that we have to be 'always on'. If my clients can't wait 3-4 hours for a reply to an email, I think they're probably not the clients I want!

Web Finds - 10 November 2012 (2012-11-10 00:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from the internet.

1. [1]In which I wobble - Sky Blue Pinkish

2. [2]Filofax vs ARC notebook.
3. [3]In Search of "The One": A Filofax ♥ Story - Friday, I'm in Love
4. [4]All Stars Guest Post - Vanja's Filofax Journal - Thoughts and Exploration
5. [5]FREE 2013 Calendar for your Filofax! - Lime Tree
6. [6]In which I fall off - Sky Blue Pinkish
7. [7]Filofax Competition time - Rapunzel's World
8. [8]Calendar 2013 – English- Bigrell Design
9. [9]Rungs on the organizing ladder - The Crazy Suburban Mom
10. [10]365/30: What colours...? - Filomaniac
11. [11]New Filofax diary layouts to download - My Life All in One Place
12. [12]dressing like my deco/osterley - Paper Lovestory
13. [13]Filofax and Phone: The Honeymoon Recording Dream Team - The Crazy Life of J
14. [14]Filofax dissection. - Filofax Philosophy
15. [15]Swirl Agenda - Cloudberry Musings
16. [16]October Month in Review - Behind my Purpley Life
17. [17]Planner fail, or rather planner indecision - Girl in Maths
18. [18]Tabs and Dividers: Progressing with my Filofax setup - Planning with Printed Portal
19. [19]Tech - Just an Essex girl
20. [20]A Look Inside my Filofax Flex A5 - Matryoshka Vegan!
21. [21]Who's Got a Filofax Full of Men? - From My Pantry
22. [22]Using a Filofax to plan a website - Design in a Teacup
23. [23]Filofax Print - MCR Print
24. [24]What colours should they add to existing Filofax ranges? - Filofit
25. [25]Using Embossing Powders on the Domino - Jagged Little Thoughts
26. [26]Back to the old.. - Circus Life with Disturbed Mamacita
27. [27]Filofax Friday – New Inserts - The Yarn Yard
28. [28]custom to-do inserts - Paper Lovestory
29. [29]First Impressions: Personal Holborn in Wine - Friday, I'm in Love
30. [30]New Filofax Dividers! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
31. [31]List of Filofaxes i NEED! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
32. [32]a bargain in the filofax sale! - Paperplane Thinking
33. [33]wild 'o fax?! - and then she read
34. [34]North West (Manchester) Meet Up!! - Filo Obsessed

And here are this weeks Filofax videos from the internet.

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/oJ4XW94LF7w?rel=0>

IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/U-D2mrFzkw?rel=0>

IFRAME: [37]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/ruIghIrh7ug?rel=0>

IFRAME: [38]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/lmHG5XZqfMQ?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://skybluepinkish.wordpress.com/2012/10/30/in-which-i-wobble/>
2. <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-vs-arc-notebook.html>
3. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.fr/2012/11/in-search-of-one-filofax-story.html?m=0>
4. <http://www.thoughtsandexploration.com/2012/11/all-stars-guest-post-vanjas-filofax.html>
5. <http://www.limetreefruits.com/2012/11/free-2013-calendar-for-your-filofaxhtml>
6. <http://skybluepinkish.wordpress.com/2012/11/06/in-which-i-fall-off/>
7. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-competition-time.html>
8. <http://bigrell.com/index.php/bonus/>
9. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/rungs-on-organizing-ladder.html>
10. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/11/36530-what-colours.html>
11. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/11/new-filofax-diary-layouts-to-download.html>
12. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/dressing-like-my-decoosterley.html>
13. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-and-phone-honeymoon-recording.html>
14. http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-dissection_8.html
15. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/swirl-agenda.html>
16. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/11/october-month-in-review.html>
17. <http://girlinmaths.wordpress.com/2012/11/07/planner-fail-or-rather-planner-indecision/>
18. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/11/07/tabs-and-dividers-progressing-with-my-filofax-setup/>
19. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/11/tech.html>
20. <http://www.matryoshkavegan.co.uk/2012/11/a-look-inside-my-fliofax-flex-a5.html>
21. <http://frommypantry.wordpress.com/2012/11/08/whos-got-a-filofax-full-of-men/>
22. <http://designinateacup.wordpress.com/2012/11/08/reblog-using-a-filofax-to-plan-a-website/>
23. <http://www.mcrprint.co.uk/filofax>
24. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/11/08/what-colours-should-they-add-to-existing-filofax-ranges/>
25. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/using-embossing-powders-on-domino.html>
26. <http://mamacitascircus.blogspot.fr/2012/11/back-to-old.html>
27. <http://theyarnyard.co.uk/blog/2012/11/09/filofax-friday-new-inserts-nablopomo/>
28. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/custom-to-do-inserts.html>
29. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.fr/2012/11/first-impressions-personal-holborn-in.html?m=0>
30. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/11/new-flofax-dividers.html>
31. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/11/list-of-filofaxes-i-need.html>
32. <http://paperplanethinking.blogspot.fr/2012/11/a-bargain-in-filofax-sale.html>
33. <http://andthensheread.com/2012/11/09/wild-o-fax/>
34. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/11/north-west-manchester-meet-up.html>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/oJ4XW94LF7w?rel=0>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/U--D2mrFzkw?rel=0>
37. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/ruIghIrh7ug?rel=0>
38. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/lmHG5XZqfMQ?rel=0>

Steve Morton (2012-11-10 16:12:48)

It's funny you know I'm only just reading through these now in full.... I only skim read them when the post is being put together!!

Shaha (2012-11-10 20:39:40)

Here's a little Filofax from the Maldives.

<http://shahadaahmed.blogspot.com/2012/11/organizing-filofax.html>

I've been a fan of this blog for ages. :)

My 2013 set up... (2012-11-11 00:00) - Steve Morton

I was very smug thinking I've got my 2013 set up all sorted, just a continuation this years set up..... or so I thought....

One day last week I spent a very productive morning printing my own diary inserts, so that in 2013 I would be using my own inserts and none bought from Filofax.

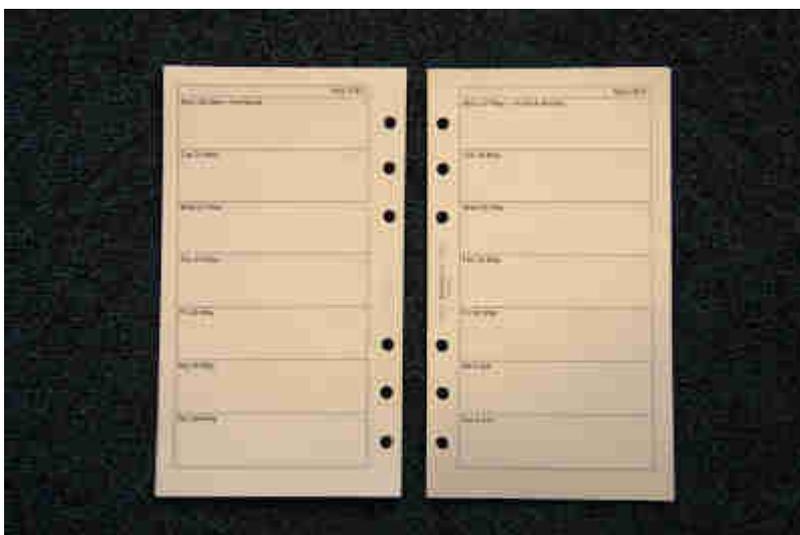
This year I've only been using one of my own printed inserts the others have been Filofax ones on their thin paper.

In my A5 I carry two diary inserts one for planning and one for my journal. Although I might consider some way of combining those two functions in to one insert in the future. The A5 tends to sit on my desk alongside me all the time.

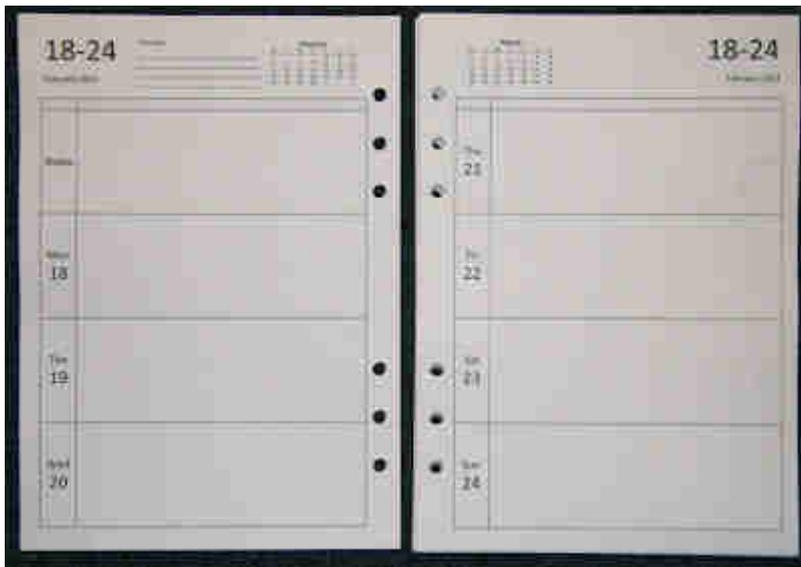
In my personal size Filofax I have a simple week per page just to record my appointments so when I'm out and about I have the details of where I will be and I can add to this should I need to. Yes it does mean I'm keeping two (or three if you include iCal) diaries in sync manually, but I don't find this an issue. For 2013 I am using the same basic format, but ones of my own designs, the [1]™ Enhanced Week per View A5 insert as I have been using for most of this year. And a [2] week per view journal insert which is a nice and simple layout. Both A5 inserts are printed on 80gsm A5 paper which goes through my laser printer just fine.

In the personal size for 2013 I have printed my own [3] Week Per Page insert on to Filofax Cotton Cream plain note paper. After fanning the the pages these also feed through the printer just fine. I leave them for a few minutes to cool down and then print the reverse side. The Filofax cotton cream paper is thicker than the normal white Filofax note paper.

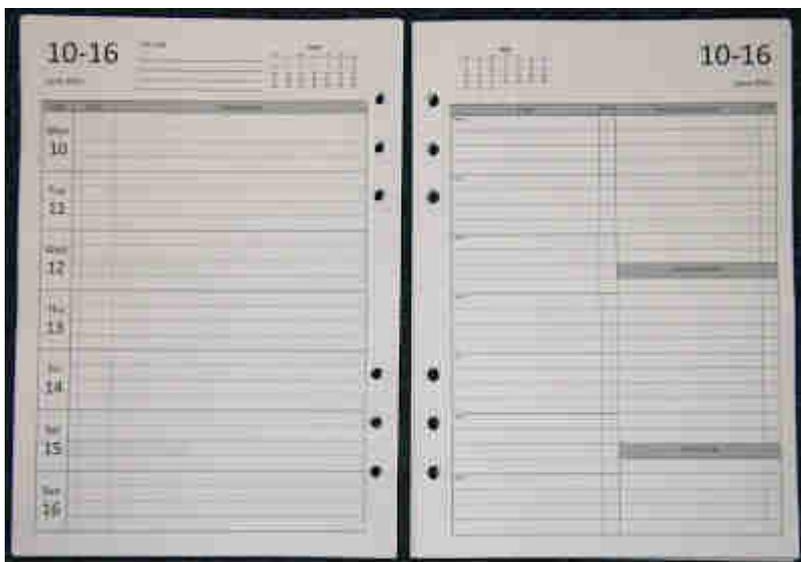
As you can see from the pictures the finished results do look very good and I'm really looking forward to using them next year.



[4]



[5]



[6]

When I added both A5 inserts to my A5 Malden I realised I might have a problem, being that the paper is thicker, it does take up more room on the rings. So I measured the thickness of the respective inserts:

- A5 Filofax 4.25mm thick for a full 12 months
- 80gsm plain paper 6mm thick for a full 12 months

With some archiving of past pages I was able to get both 12 month inserts in to the A5 Malden, but it is still looking a little fat! So I might have to take out 6 months from each insert to reduce the number of pages and store those until we get further in to the year and then archive the first few months etc. Then I looked at the personal size:

- Filofax white paper 2.25mm thick for a full 12 months
- Filofax cotton cream 3.5mm thick for a full 12 months

It might not seem a very big difference, but at the moment I'm using a compact Malden with 15mm rings. But it's already more or less full to capacity and I only keep a couple of months of pages in it, plus my A-Z contacts and some note pages.

So I think I will be ok with the A5 with a bit of careful management, but I thought a bit about the

Personal size and decided to pull all my personal size organisers out of the cupboard and assess them as alternatives.

I narrowed it down to the existing Malden compact zip (15mm rings), a normal Malden (23mm rings) or the big Cuban Zip (30mm rings), a stepped progression!



[7]

I found the best way to assess my real needs was to gather together all the pages I need on the desk, as well as dividers and other contents and then assemble the total fill in to each organiser in turn to see how well it all fits, what problems there are etc.

Whilst I was doing this I also consolidated all my spare personal size pages in to one box rather than across several unused organisers, so it's not been a wasted exercise!

In the end I've decided to give the normal non-zip Malden a try and I will see how that works for me for the first month or so. Going back up in ring size will allow me to also add things like maps and other information inserts in to my organiser that I've had to leave out in the compact Malden.

I might return to the compact zip Malden if I find I'm not using all of the pages. I might also enhance the diary by using some [8]month to a page sheets as well as the weekly sheets so I can have the rest of the year in the organiser as well. I will print these on cotton cream paper as well.

So we don't have problems.... we only have solutions to our problems!

1. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view.docx

2. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013A5WeekView.docx

3. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Week_Per_Page/2013_merged_weekperpage_personal_print.docx

4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-QHof2qLCO-w/UJgLWIBv0fI/AAAAAAAAAN4w/wefkF8no73Q/s1600/IMG_3218.jpg

5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-E_oQDsJ83ko/UJgLedoZxoI/AAAAAAAAAN5A/1DU5Yghn8e8/s1600/IMG_3221.jpg

6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-1g0vnPyzEC0/UJgLi0o2NGI/AAAAAAAAAN5I/Uf89gxL_Ado/s1600/IMG_3222.jpg

7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-lHiXXxsc520/UJgLL19v7gSI/AAAAAAAAAN5Q/YT07FSTX-BY/s1600/IMG_3225.jpg

8.

http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMonth1Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.docx

krustykurmudgeon (2012-11-11 00:35:34)

But Letts/Filofax has a problem: More and more people will print their inserts so that the on-going cash flow from the consumables is dwindling.

MTMTE (2012-11-11 01:55:56)

As is the brilliance of the ring-bound planner...you can make anything work for you.

Ling (2012-11-11 02:05:02)

I was just researching this yesterday, printing out some personal Philofaxy formats to try and checking paper quality online. I was thinking about Clairfontaine 70g white paper or Clairfontaine 80g cream and I haven't decided yet. Does anyone know the heaviness of Franklin Covey inserts?

Nan (2012-11-11 03:56:35)

Franklin Covey inserts are really thick. Also, their Personal size is wider, although the height and ring spacing are the same as Filofax's.

Tim (2012-11-11 06:08:59)

Phew! Pleased that Houston has been stood down - Huston too!

Alison Reeves (2012-11-11 06:18:40)

I've really enjoyed printing out some new diary pages recently. I decided to downsize to personal so have been experimenting with differing layouts. Unfortunately I get serious planner envy (and I am a Gemini) so just when I think I am settled another better idea comes along.

The beauty of the ring binders is that it is easy to chop and change. If I'm very sensible I don't print too far ahead so if I want to change my mind (which is more or less inevitable) then I can do so.

I tried really hard on the one life one binder thing, but I struggle to get it all in and of course why do I need (for example) my blogging schedule and blog ideas with me 24/7? Having the measurement of my freezer shelf so I can buy a basket for it is much more important when out and about! If my blog or work info is on my desk, I can access it easily and if I have an idea whilst out and about, I can simply make a note in my personal binder and deal with it when I get back to work.

To buy all the permutations for both A5 and personal which I might dabble in over the year is eye wateringly expensive, but by printing them myself, and only going so far ahead, I can save a lot of money.

I do think Filofax has shot themselves in the foot by not listening to us, and thus the resulting printing of our own inserts - they may use thinner paper so we can get more in a binder - but they need to talk to us about it and also offer a viable alternative - i.e. more choice in cotton cream.

Steve Morton (2012-11-11 06:22:29)

Both places exist, I did check.... just that one is better known than the other

Erozion (2012-11-11 07:20:21)

Where would I be able to buy A4 cream 80gsm paper please? I'm presently using white, but it's just not doing it for me.

Steve Morton (2012-11-11 07:34:27)

Amazon... Staples do pastel colours, Ryman's, may be WH Smiths even

I've just ordered some A5 paper from Amazon but in white, it saves having to cut it in two each time.

Erozion (2012-11-11 07:39:56)

Thanx Steve, found some on Amazon. I'm used to cutting paper with a knife for my notebooks.

Ling (2012-11-11 16:02:39)

What brands have personal sized inserts, D2P with appointments and space for to-do's on the left and simple notepaper on the right?

krustykurmudgeon (2012-11-11 22:46:31)

Just one additional point: I find myself carrying Moleskine books a lot. I like their feel, the paper quality is good, and if I want to slip a page from the moleskin to the binder, it's easy to do. There's always a pocket sized one on my jacket pocket, and I have a hard-covered grid-ruled 5x8 in my briefcase at all times. I'm using a Moleskine that has a week on a page on the left and plain lined paper on the right, for a specific long project. I somewhat question why I'm not using one as my regular appointment/address book.

EmmaNoey (2012-11-12 13:54:08)

I saw your you-tube video on the Flex over on the U.S. Filofax site. They have a rotating selection of you tube videos that come up after you watch the flex demonstration. I imagine that it appears on other of their site pages as well. Also available were videos from Josh LaPorte and OrganizedLike Jen, and others. Is this part of their new program that you discussed with them? It does give a nice example of real life use . . .

Butanben (2012-11-13 09:06:30)

My home internet connection has been down and so I have missed Philofaxy dreadfully. Using a Wi-fi cafe and commenting to you over a yummy BLT sandwich today!! Just to say, Wilkinsons have some lovely thin squared paper mini notebooks, which fit perfectly into my A5 pocket slots at the front. They are 50p each and a super design- like the Filofax Olympic page marker/ruler design was, but in red. Bargain!! Also Home sense have their Christmas Filofaxes in, including Chameleons..... not that I am an enabler or anything!!!

Reader Under the Spotlight - Coralie (2012-11-12 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Hi everyone, I'm Coralie and I am delighted to participate in Philofaxy's Reader under the Spotlight. I am based in the UK and have an addiction (or rather passion) for notebooks, Filofaxes, stationery and organisation.

I have recently started 2 new blogs called [2]Printed Portal and [3]Planning with Printed Portal. For all you Filofax lovers planning with Printed Portal contains all my filo ramblings while printed portal is focused on organisational notebooks.

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

As a kid I had all of the funfax range (they are probably still knocking around in my parents attic somewhere). My first "adult" purchase was a pink personal sized Metropolis which I bought last November.

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

I have toyed with purchasing a paperchase own brand binder, as some of the patterns are so pretty, but I have yet to make the plunge.

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

I love them all, but my current favourite is my personal cross in chocolate. It is providing much amusement as I am still perfecting my set-up.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I own 5. Two personal metropol (one in pink, one in lavender), personal cross in chocolate, personal London 2012 sporting icons and Malden mini (vintage pink).

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I have a different set-up in each of my Filofaxes.

- Personal metropol (lavender): this is my diary (wo2p inserts) and contains my after work schedule notebook and to-do list.
- Personal metropol (pink): this contains my lists and key information. I am still working on turning this into a proper stay at home fax as my bag can't take it anymore.
- Personal Cross: this is my blog/notebook filofax. It contains a planner, ideas list, blog post info/drafts and time recording among other things - I am still perfecting/experimenting with this set-up.
- Mini Malden: this is my wallet and financial Filofax.
- London 2012: my Filofax lists 365/30.

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

I can personalise my pages to suit my needs and the fact that I can add and remove pages - and most

importantly - experiment.

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

A larger pouch/pockets for notebooks - I already comfortable carry a6 and pocket sized notebooks in my personals but it would be nice to slot them in securely/neatly.

Other than that I am more about customising my inserts rather than the binder.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

The mini malden, both personal metropol and personal cross currently get carried about in my bag. Yes - it is heavy.

I am looking to change my pink metropol into a complete stay at home fax (the two metropol used to be one binder before I ran out of space) and/or get a slimline for my diary...

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

I am currently eyeing up a Cuban slimline (currently in the sale at WH Smiths) Although I would happily purchase a Filofax personal Classic in Pink or Holborn in Wine.

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

The most expensive was my mini Malden which I bought from City Organiser. Can't remember now how much I paid for it.

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

Everything: it is a great community and I love the way everyone shares tips and ideas.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

Nothing not to like - other than the fact I have time blocked out in my schedule for web finds and general catching up with Philofaxy.

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

I don't listen to a lot of music, I tend to enjoy the radio more. I have currently stolen my partners "take that progress" cd for the car to listen to when the radio is boring.

Thank you Coralie for agreeing to go under our spot light.

If you would like to to be a future 'Reader Under The Spotlight' please get in touch with us at philofaxy [at] gmail [dot] com

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-DQiStX_g6DA/UIrpJKgJ8aI/AAAAAAAAANyI/A-i4l-ifNME/s1600/Coralie.png

2. <http://www.printedportal.com/>

3. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/>

Steve Morton (2012-11-12 12:15:43)

I think your Planning with Printed Portal blog is great, some great ideas you are sharing over there.

printedportal (2012-11-13 01:11:09)

Thanks Steve. It is relatively limited at the moment, as I am living out of a suitcase - but hopefully I can be more adventurous in the new year.

Free For All Tuesday No. 93 (2012-11-13 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have.
So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypHOYfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

Wendy Miller (2012-11-13 02:24:11)

I want to selling my stuff to people who actually have room for it. A lot of people around here seem to be ebay buffs, and I was wondering if anyone has a template for their filox to help them track items and buyers etc. Thanks :)

Ms BOB (2012-11-13 02:28:29)

I was wondering about the Flex. I really liked how Tim hacked his Flex into becoming a ring binder :-)

What are the dimension of the Flex A5 planner inserts?

Would a Moleskine soft notebook large fit into the slots in an A5 Flex?

Diliana Imandieva (2012-11-13 03:04:50)

Could you find any stockist of Hema (The Netherlands) or far East - they have amaizing staff?

Tim (2012-11-13 04:56:51)

Hi Ms Bob - "Hacker Tim" here! I like to think what I did to the A5 Flex (see posts on 11th and 12th July 2012) was "carefully sculpted" rather than hacked!

I succumbed and purchased a new leather A5 tan Flex a few weeks ago (yes, City Organiser). I carried out the same conversion with the same success. The only difference is that the leather used by Filofax is so awfully thin that you can feel (and almost see) the ring mechanism through the leather - rather like a rib cage on a very thin person! It works fine though and is great if (like me) you do most stuff on a smart phone and/or tablet these days. The four main A5 Flex pockets each take A5 (210mm x 148mm) paper, booklets and inserts. Thickness is the thing to watch - especially if you've done a conversion like I did.

I've not actually inserted a Moleskine but can't forsee a problem. The large is 210mm x 130mm so should work fine as long as it's not too thick.

Alice x (2012-11-13 07:18:15)

paperlovestory has made one for Personal filofaxes.....http://coldshoulder.pink-pistol.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/ebay_large.pdf

Suzee Neal (2012-11-13 07:27:32)

I need a punch for a A5 size . I've searched Amazon and can't seem to locate one,other then the one that fits inside the binder. Anyone know a good place to purchase?

Emma Hancock (2012-11-13 07:48:33)

On the hunt for a London underground map for a mini. The local stationer passed me off with a, "I don't think they make those anymore." But I'm unconvinced! Has anyone stumbled accross one on their adventures?

Emma Hancock (2012-11-13 07:59:55)

I've found one on the Amazon UK site: http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/aw/d/B002DPLI24/ref=redir_mdp_mobile?creative=22206&creativeASIN=B002DPLI24&linkCode=asn&ref_=asc_df_B002DPLI2410558767&smid=A3P5ROKL5A1OLE&tag=googlecouk06-21

...and ebay: <http://item.mobileweb.ebay.co.uk/viewitem?itemId=281019424927&siteId=3&isClassified=false>

But they're both on the bad side of expensive :/ Hope this helps though

Ms BOB (2012-11-13 08:17:13)

I love the your description "carefully sculpted" :-) Hope I did not offend you in any way, as it was meant as a creative compliment. Not always easy as english is not my first language.

I would really like to try the same thing as I only need small rings, and I like the solution with the slots. However, I am afraid I will ruin the fine leather...

Anke (2012-11-13 08:19:52)

Try this one:

[http://www.ebay.de/itm/Bind-6-Fach-Locher-A5-A6-A7-Terminplaner-Time r-Organizer-Systemplaner-Lochung-/230762302596?pt=Locher_Hefter_#ht_1871wt_1156](http://www.ebay.de/itm/Bind-6-Fach-Locher-A5-A6-A7-Terminplaner-Time-r-Organizer-Systemplaner-Lochung-/230762302596?pt=Locher_Hefter_#ht_1871wt_1156)

I've had it for nearly a year now, it also punches personal pages and I think it's made of good quality and reasonably prized!

A (2012-11-13 08:48:17)

This is mine

http://www.timesystem.us/Punch_for_A5_Brushed_Silver_p/a57321.htm

Alison (2012-11-13 08:56:49)

After being very good lately, selling binders that I no longer use and being happy with my current Filo's i'm getting Filofax envy again and i'm feeling the need to purchase another binder. I must resist, I must resist !!! :-(

Suzee Neal (2012-11-13 08:57:28)

Thank you !! I will check them all out =0)

Helen Conway (2012-11-13 09:01:14)

Think of it as a civic service rather than a vice. Its like the housing market.. adspot needs first time buyers to get us all moving!

Tim (2012-11-13 09:34:25)

Bob - If English is not your first language, then I'm amazed, as you write it very fluently!

The Flex A5 binder is perfect for adding a ring and creating a compact A5. So go for it! At least a couple of other people have tried it, following my post! I understand the 11mm slimline mechanism works particularly well. Just remember not to try a ring size bigger than 15mm and that Filofax Slimline and A5 forms have different hole configurations. If you're punching your own or using Time Manager forms, then this is not a problem.

You can sculpt with confidence as you don't have to cut the leather. That's because there is no leather on the inside of the Flex spine - just thin mesh fabric (money saving again!). By the way, "fine leather" could be better described as "thin leather"! It does at least keep the weight down.

Good luck! Tim

LFZ (2012-11-13 11:01:05)

For those of you who use Maldens...

Does anyone else have issues with the front pockets? I find it difficult to write on the left side of the rings because the pockets don't provide a hard enough or flat enough surface to write on. Any way to combat this? I've tried a flyleaf but its definitely not firm enough.

thanks!

Rianne (2012-11-13 11:29:38)

Hi Suzee Neal,

I have the same holepuncher as Anke mention.

It works like a dream. I have bought mine here in a local store for 11,00 Euro new Price. Just some info you mabey need.

Gr. Rianne

Rianne (2012-11-13 11:30:55)

Hi What do you mean by that?

Would you like some Hema agenda for pocket or personal size for 2013?

I can ship you one if you like one!

Gr. Rianne

Rianne (2012-11-13 11:33:30)

Also the Hallmark has lovely inserts as well.

If you want pictures let me know.

I shal do a blogpost of them on my blog if youre interested in that.

Gr. Rianne

Rianne (2012-11-13 11:35:03)

Maybe some hardcover plastic that will do the trick? The flyleaf of filofax isn't that sturdy.

Gr. Rianne

Elise Seitz (2012-11-13 12:05:49)

Does anyone have a yellow finsbury? Is it a "yellow yellow" or an "orange yellow". I am hoping it is more of a dark mustard than a sunny yellow.

Alison (2012-11-13 12:52:12)

Ha ha good way of thinking about it Helen :-)

indigogarden (2012-11-13 12:52:48)

I use one of the thick plastic fly leafs I had left over from an old Day-Timer in the front of my Malden. It is slightly larger than the filofax pages and provides a smooth surface to write on. I put one in the back too. I would also try a plastic zip back in the front, it would probably smooth out your writing surface as well.

Alison (2012-11-13 12:53:23)

I don't have one but have seen one, it's definitely more of a sunny yellow!!

Elise Seitz (2012-11-13 13:08:58)

Thanks so much! I guess I'm choosing something different.

Wendy Miller (2012-11-13 14:28:49)

Perfect! Thanks very much :)

Laurie (2012-11-13 15:36:43)

I'm in the market for a Compact Filofax (Personal size pages but 15 mm rings). I looked for a compact Malden but it seems like I missed the boat. I'm also considering a Holborn or Pennybridge. I love the colors of the Classic Botanics but am concerned about the top layer peeling off as I've heard other Classics do.

Can anyone recommend a particular Compact, at a moderate price? Or, can you please warn me away from any particularly bad ones?

Thanks everyone!

Cheryl (2012-11-13 15:58:13)

I do the same...use the plastic fly leafs from old Daytimer's or Dayplanners. In fact I use them in all of my binders for stability and easy page turning. I could use a couple more; wish they sold them separately.

Cheryl (2012-11-13 16:03:12)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Cheryl (2012-11-13 16:04:53)

I've read favorable reviews on the Holborn compact but I don't have one myself. I just know from having a Personal Holborn that the leather is very soft and flexible with a little more structure than the Malden. I have a compact Chameleon and I like it; I've only had it for 2 months but so far it's fine and reasonably priced. I would also like to get the zipped compact Malden but they are not available right now except on the Filofax France and German website. Didn't want to go that route due to shipping and exchange rates. Heard from City Organizer;

they expect them back in in March 2013 or sooner. Still haven't seen them on the US Filofax site. Good luck with your choice!

Deborah- Jane (2012-11-13 17:56:55)

Laurie, this question is purely down to curiosity but exactly why do you need a a compact?

Laurie (2012-11-14 02:01:49)

I've been using Moleskine Volant notebooks and an address booklet for my carry-around information, notes and lists but I'd like to combine those into one book with the flexibility of adding/ removing pages. I have plenty of Personal size Filofaxes but want something slimmer. I don't want to downsize to Pocket size though, because I want to be able to swap out pages with the Personals I already own.

I'm wondering though if I should wait until Filofax resolves their production issues, because I keep hearing more and more about people having problems with rings not closing completely.

Suzee Neal (2012-11-14 02:29:37)

Thank you Rianne, I'm in the States and maybe that is why I was finding it difficult to find a punch lol I found this today! <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.com/2012/11/perfect-punching-for-a5s.html> Now I wont have to buy a new punch =)

Ms BOB (2012-11-14 07:25:39)

I now ordered an A5 Flex Lizard print in black currant. Looking forward to experimenting.

teddy edwards (2012-11-14 10:54:51)

I found one on Amazon UK.

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Filofax-Mini-London-Underground-Map/dp/B002C610FE>

hope this helps

mstraat (2012-11-14 15:35:23)

I have a brown Holborn compact and really like it; it is very sleek to carry around. No ring issues, but I don't open and close it very often and don't keep it that full. There is no zip pocket, if that makes a difference to you, or much color choice.

David Popely (2012-11-14 15:54:59)

This comment has been removed by the author.

David Popely (2012-11-14 15:59:38)

Try putting a notes section in first place in the binder (you can get away with only using the right-facing sheet), and then the diary behind it.

Diliana Imandieva (2012-11-16 10:56:45)

O, thanks a lot! Hema has great range of stickers and inserts in the liddy section and I will have a look into Hallmark now! I would be very greatfull for any fun inserts you can suggest! Thank you again!

Laurie (2012-11-20 05:40:10)

Thanks mstraat. Does it lie flat? And is the cover floppy?

Web Finds - 13 November 2012 (2012-11-13 12:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from around the internet:

1. [1]Card arrived for my Filofax dividers! - Jagged Little Thoughts

2. [2]My Filofax Regency Compact used as a wallet! - My Filo World
3. [3]Mein Filofax Jahreskalender 2013 - Month on 2 Page... - Chaotic Perfectionist
4. [4]Blogging Schedule Insert: Revisited - Planning with Printed Portal
5. [5]Budget pages for your Filofax for free download - My Life All in One Place
6. [6]Filofax Arrival; Personal Adelphi Purple Review - My Filo World
7. [7]Colors, Colors, Colors! My Colorful Filofaxes Malden, Adelphi and Amazona - My Filoworld
8. [8]13.5 lists - Bits of Me
9. [9]A Virgin Planner - Bits of Me
10. [10]What was your first filofax? - Paperplane Thinking
11. [11]Filofax 365/30: What colours should they add to the existing Filofax range? - Planning with Printed Portal
12. [12]A spot of Filofaxing ready for 2013... All Things Stationery
13. [13]my filofax week #30 - Paper Lovestory
14. [14]Organizing: Filofax - Diary girl
15. [15]Another Filofax To Add To The Collection - Typecast
16. [16]My Bargain Filofax !! - Filo Obsessed
17. [17]Filofax Pen Loop hack with the Leuchtturm 1917 - My Filo World
18. [18]Getting ready for Christmas - Cloudberry Musings
19. [19]Filofax - Puddytat Purr
20. [20]What I write and keep in my Filofax :) - Filofax Love
21. [21]In which we discuss Planner Fail and Downsizing- Honey and Filofaxes
22. [22]Tutorial! And something my Momma gave me - AppleHead Threads
23. [23]The Secret Language of Planning - Daily Thoughts and Random Ideas

And here are the latest Filofax videos from around the internet.

IFRAME: [24]http://www.youtube.com/embed/_OPdeQT7q38?rel=0

IFRAME: [25]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Fw1UF2R9ZmQ?rel=0>

IFRAME: [26]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/fREkaVtT-nQ?rel=0>

IFRAME: [27]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/SAq2cjaI0Q0?rel=0>

IFRAME: [28]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Ar4GxD3xtx8?rel=0>

IFRAME: [29]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/NiXJ0wDBXQE?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/card-arrived-for-my-filofax-dividers.html>
2. <http://myfiloworld.com/my-filofax-regency-compact-used-as-a-wallet/>
3. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.fr/2012/11/mein-jahreskalender-2013-month-on-2.html>
4. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/11/09/blogging-schedule-insert-revisited/>
5. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/11/budget-pages-for-your-filofax-for-free.html>
6. <http://myfiloworld.com/filofax-arrival-personal-adelphi-purple-review/>
7. <http://myfiloworld.com/colors-colors-my-colorful-filofaxes-malden-adelphi-and-amazona/>
8. <http://borntobegeeky.blogspot.fr/2012/09/135-lists.html>
9. <http://borntobegeeky.blogspot.fr/2012/11/a-virgin-planner.html>
10. <http://paperplanethinking.blogspot.fr/2012/11/what-was-your-first-filofax.html>
11. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/11/11/filofax-36530-what-colours-should-they-add-to-the-existing-filofax-range/>
12. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/11/a-spot-of-filofaxing-ready-for-2013.html>
13. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/my-filofax-week-30.html>
14. <http://shahadaahmed.blogspot.fr/2012/11/organizing-filofax.html>
15. <http://www.iamtypecast.com/2012/11/filofax-classic-botanics-review.html>
16. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/11/my-bargain-filofax.html>
17. <http://myfiloworld.com/filofax-penloop-hack-leichtturm-1917/>
18. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/getting-ready-for-christmas.html>
19. <http://puddytatpurr.colourfuldesigns.co.uk/filofax/>
20. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/11/11/what-i-write-and-keep-in-my-filofax/>
21. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.fr/2012/11/in-which-we-discuss-planner-fail-and.html>
22. <http://appleheadthreads.blogspot.fr/2012/11/tutorial-and-something-my-momma-gave-me.html>
23. <http://stormberry.blogspot.fr/2012/11/the-secret-language-of-planning.html>
24. http://www.youtube.com/embed/_OPdeQT7q38?rel=0
25. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Fw1UF2R9ZmQ?rel=0>
26. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/fREkaVtT-nQ?rel=0>
27. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/SAq2cjaI0Q0?rel=0>
28. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Ar4GxD3xtx8?rel=0>
29. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/NiXJ0wDBXQE?rel=0>

Alondra Karwowski (2012-11-13 12:57:04)

Here is another video if you'd like to check it out. It's a review on the personal size Holborn :)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdz-E1BoiLQ&feature=g-upl>

Steve Morton (2012-11-13 13:42:21)

Sorry I've been out all day and didn't get home in time to update the post with today's published posts and any videos that have appeared on You Tube in the last 24 hours.

Anything not in this post will be included in the post on Saturday.

Going to be abit of an odd week because I will be in Edinburgh on Friday night!

Suzee Neal (2012-11-13 13:44:18)

I love Tuesdays!!! lol I love to browse all these blogs and watch the videos..

All Change! (2012-11-14 00:00) - Steve Morton

Having printed my A5 inserts for next year, I decided to have a session sorting through my A5 inserts and A5 organisers to get them in to order properly. It's quite therapeutic and I now understand the enjoyment some of you get from this sort of task.



[1] Top Left to Right, Spare inserts in box, Filo Pal Malden , Archive Diary Finsbury

Bottom Left to Right, Work Holborn, Main Malden So what changed.... first up I wanted to turn my A5 Finsbury into my Diary Archive binder, with big 30mm rings I figured it will hold at least a couple of years worth of diary inserts. So I removed all the pages. I then gave it a little clean up.

Here's a tip on the cloth interior of the Finsbury you often get paper dust sticking to the cloth. Take a length of sticky tape (scotch tape) press it sticky side down on to the cloth, then rip it off and the paper dust sticks to the tape and you get a nice clean and dust free surface. You might need to do this a couple of times, but it works! Also great for getting dust out of the turn ups in your trousers!

So with this years archived pages moved in to the Finsbury I put that back in the cupboard. Next up I got down my Holborn Zip. It had come with a standard fill with the exception of the diary. So I removed all the pages put them to one side and then slotted in the pages and dividers from the Finsbury. The Holborn is now my [2]Property Search organiser, the content is the same as [3]described here, so I won't repeat myself, but what I like about the Holborn with it being a zip organiser I will be able to keep a better check on house description sheets, business cards etc that sometimes slip out if they haven't been punched.

I also emptied my two grey Malden A5's they were just carrying spare pages. I was then able to sort though all my spare pages and inserts in A5 size and get those in order. I don't have too many inserts for A5 as I tend to print what I need when I need them.

The smaller ring grey A5 Malden I've now turned in to my Filo Pal organiser, which I will tell you about in another post. The larger ring or standard 30 mm ring grey A5 is now empty and on standby should I wish to swap out of my orchre A5 Malden which is my current main planner. Like a good pair of leather shoes it is good to give them a rest every so often!

So how often do you sort through the contents of your Filofax, what ever size it is, or shuffle the contents from one organiser to another?

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-JFyz6C1-OD0/UJ-MFFqd1oI/AAAAAAAAAN9Q/Wb1sPVv4HDO/s1600/IMG_3228.jpg

2. <http://ltps.fr/>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/04/work-filofax.html>

Eleanor (2012-11-14 12:15:34)

I received my A5 brown Holborn zip today and I just had to share it with a community that understood...

My husband just doesnt get it...

I think I'm going to use it as my daily diary type and use my a5 Identity as an archive type thing.

I can't stop stroking it. And smelling it. Which my husband really, really doesn't understand!

David Popely (2012-11-14 15:52:25)

Hi Steve!

Now that we're in downsizing mode, I've been going through my own 'stock' of binders and inserts, and have sold the personal Malden and the A5 Kendal today, so I'm down to a choice between my vintage Hampstead personal and my black A5 Finsbury, as I'm only keeping one.

Like you, I'm planning to spend a couple of house emptying both binder and setting them up again tomorrow, and

then deciding which set-up I'm going forward into 2013 with....what a great time of year this is for making new plans and new set-ups!

I haven't 'shuffled' my set-ups for a while now (except for moving the entire set-up from one binder to another), and it's very refreshing.

Cheryl (2012-11-14 20:45:24)

Love the owl stickers! And the Maldens. I need to shuffle and realign as well; thanks for the inspiring post. :)

My FiloPal Filofax (2012-11-15 00:00) - Steve Morton

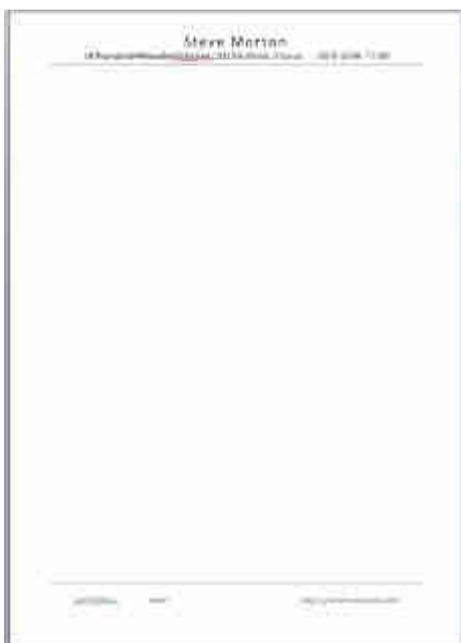
A few weeks ago one of our readers Steph set up an interesting project on her blog [1]My Once Upon the Moon called [2]FiloPal. I signed up for the project because I liked the idea and also I like to support all new projects, if I can. The project initially was about people writing to Steph. But as it got under way Steph [3]suggested people might like to write to each other in the group.

At first I just kept the odd letter I had received in the front pocket of my main planner. When Steph [4]showed off her Filofax that she is using for the project it got me thinking of doing something similar. So I picked out one of my grey A5 Maldens and decided what I was going to put in it. When I looked at what I would need for this organiser it came down to just writing paper, information (addresses) and the received correspondence. I also store some stamps for European post as well.



[5]

I've also produced a 'Letter' A5 template which I just did in Word and ran off a few sheets, they have my address details on one side and they are blank on the other side. I find unruled A5 easier for me to be able to hand write on compared to ruled or ruled personal pages.



[6]

Sorry about having to obscure my address details... but it's for obvious reasons!

Not everyone is using A5, but personal pages fit in to the A5, you just have to bend up the bottom corner on the side of the rings to avoid the clash with the rings.

One of the main advantages of having a separate organiser for this project is I can just grab it off of my desk and go and sit elsewhere around the house and I have all I need with me.

Why not join the project? [7]Contact Steph and get added to the list of correspondents, you don't have to write to everyone on the list. There are some people on there who I'm in regular electronic contact, so I have been picking out people I've not come across on the net so far. But if you write to me.... you will get a reply I promise.

Must dash... got to catch the post!

1. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/>
2. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/07/an-idea.html>
3. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/08/project-filo-pal-in-full-swing.html>
4. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/09/project-filo-pal-update.html>
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-8mm32Y7zd6k/UJ-LNY_qgcI/AAAAAAAAAN9I/9BLX51xrCcI/s1600/IMG_3229.jpg
6. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-71Spn2zhF1E/UJ55PsMmmI/AAAAAAAAAN7o/MtkcfFfY8Lo/s1600/letter.jpg>
7. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/07/an-idea.html>

natalie (2012-11-15 03:33:34)

I used to have Filofax envelopes in my personal ff about 20 years ago.

They were the same size as the paper, opened on the long edge and had six holes punched in the other long edge for storage.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-15 05:03:35)

What a lovely idea Steve - I missed this one. I love letters and writing and it give me a chance to use my fountain pens!

Alison (2012-11-15 15:15:46)

Great idea, i'm thinking of setting up my A5 Ochre Malden for this seen as my wellness journey isn't going too well. I need a new use for this Filo, i've just been using a section in my Main Home Filo for Penpals/FiloPal :-)

Lime Tree (2012-11-15 22:11:15)

Such a great idea!!!! Totally doing it too :D

Free for All Friday No. 209 (2012-11-16 00:00) - Nan

At some points in all of our lives, we turn inwards. We feel the need to get away from all of the noise and clutter and take a look at what's most important to us.

Do you find that your Filofax helps you focus your priorities?

I think that a Filofax, by its very nature, encourages us to slow down, think, and prioritize, even as it helps us gain control over all of the activity and clutter.

Paul B (2012-11-16 00:56:51)

I have separate To Do lists for work and personal which helps a lot. Bigger to do tasks which are more like projects get their own page. I don't have time for different colours, so things are just priority 1, 2 or 3. 1 is urgent, usually meaning the same day. 2 keeps the wheels on the bus. 3 are things I'll get round to sometime but if I don't, the world will still keep rotating. If I'm in the office, or working from home, I'll occasionally use a highlighter for very urgent tasks. Only appointments go in my day per page diary. Sometimes I use a small post-it with the main 4 or 5 tasks, stuck in the diary page. It's a very basic system but works for me. I couldn't do this in anything except a ring-bound planner as I'm always moving sheets around.

Paul B (2012-11-16 00:57:18)

I have separate To Do lists for work and personal which helps a lot. Bigger to do tasks which are more like projects get their own page. I don't have time for different colours, so things are just priority 1, 2 or 3. 1 is urgent, usually meaning the same day. 2 keeps the wheels on the bus. 3 are things I'll get round to sometime but if I don't, the world will still keep rotating. If I'm in the office, or working from home, I'll occasionally use a highlighter for very urgent tasks. Only appointments go in my day per page diary. Sometimes I use a small post-it with the main 4 or 5 tasks, stuck in the diary page. It's a very basic system but works for me. I couldn't do this in anything except a ring-bound planner as I'm always moving sheets around.

David Popely (2012-11-16 04:37:00)

Nan, I agree absolutely. I make regular 'retreat days', and my Filofax always goes with me. Also, I find the GTD weekly review a form of introspection as well. I don't journal as much as I would like, but if I did, my Filofax would still sit alongside my journal, and together they would form, respectively, the inward-looking and resultant proactive elements of my 'process'.

I'm introspective by nature (a strong 'I' on the MBTI) and if anyone else is out there who feels slightly 'at sea' in this connected, 'always on' world, I recommend reading Sara Maitland's 'A Book of Silence', and/or 'Quiet' by Susan Cain.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 04:46:38)

I've asked this on the facebook group so forgive me if you have seen it there. I want to track my financial monthly outgoings more clearly (and possibly visually) and I wondered if anyone can make suggestions as to how they have done it? A description or a link to a blog post would be post welcome. It will give me food for thought and help me to develop my own system.

natalie (2012-11-16 04:56:22)

Do you mean regular payments like mortgage etc., or buns from the cake shop?

David Popely (2012-11-16 05:02:07)

Buns? Cake shop? You do know it's Friday, aka Doughnut Day?.....)

natalie (2012-11-16 05:33:09)

In our house, SSBD.

Saturday is Sticky Bun Day!

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 06:19:47)

LOL Natalie / David! I mean regular payments like mortgage etc - it's all about cashflow and making sure I know what is coming up so no surprises. I'm leaning towards a month on two pages and stickers/coloured pens because it would also allow me to put in annual payments which I often forget about!

David Popely (2012-11-16 06:22:28)

I've got a great spreadsheet you could use, but I doubt it could be persuaded to print in A5....good for PC-based use though

Anita (2012-11-16 06:35:54)

Thank you for your book recommendation, David. I enjoy being connected but sometimes find it a bit too much & at these times disappear off with book & file in hand, leaving my phone behind! My Ascot is my no. 1 tool for prioritising.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 06:41:17)

Could I have a look at your Spreadsheet David? I'm not sure if it's what would help me until I see it! Thanks!

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 06:42:38)

I have to disconnect as well. I don't subscribe to the view that we have to be available 24/7 and I reserve the right to not answer either my house phone or mobile if it's not convenient. That is what answerphone services are for!

David Popely (2012-11-16 06:49:23)

If it's important, they'll leave a message. If they don't, it isn't important.

Problem is, we have all been sold a lie by phone companies from back around the advent of mobile phones, which is that if we miss one call, all our family and friends will die, our business will collapse, and we'll be destitute in a week. As the old song used to go, 'It ain't necessarily so'.

I was at a business networking event last week when someone I hadn't met before seriously tried to tell me that it was 'silly' not to leave my (her) business phone on all weekend and take calls from clients, because they would 'definitely go to one of (her) competitors'. Quite frankly, if a client is that disloyal, she probably needs to get rid of them, and her business, anyway.....

David Popely (2012-11-16 07:01:18)

I've had a great week rationalising and downsizing my hoard of binders and refills. Stuff has gone off to Scotland, Hampshire, the West Midlands and the US, all as a result of contacts made here and on the FB page. Networking works! As a result I now have almost enough PayPal revenue to pay for my office refurb when we move in Feb (so far its ring-fenced for that purpose).

I've sold the personal Malden, the A5 Kendal, and a bunch of inserts, all to good homes where they will be loved and cared for. I just have to find a careful buyer for the black A5 Finsbury and I'm done! Plus a whole lot of A5 inserts if anyone's interested, including a set of A5 weekly 'Time Management' diary inserts for 2013.

I love this community....thank you all for being so great. In line with the thread about needing 'alone' time, I'll be less ever-present from a lot of communities from Feb onwards, but Philofaxy won't be one of them!

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 07:17:45)

I think with customers it is around the boundaries you set and their expectations. I have had demanding customers, and where I am happy to accommodate where possible, but you have to question if it is their disorganisation that causes the 'last minute panic' issues. I have learnt to 'ring-fence' certain times and events when I am not available.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 07:21:03)

David - well done on the sales - I'm sure as some of us need to rationalise our collection, others are just starting out on the road and need supplies.

Also it's good to rationalise where we spent out time online - there are just too many choices!

David Popely (2012-11-16 07:21:07)

exactly. Some clients are more demanding than others, but (almost) always it is their lack of organisation which is causing the problem. Clients need training. 'How long have you known you would be needing this done today?' is a good question to be asking, silently if not aloud!

David Popely (2012-11-16 07:24:34)

There's definitely going to be a rationalisation of internet time when we don't have always-on hot and cold running broadband! :)

Suzee Neal (2012-11-16 07:31:13)

I'm a new Filofax user but have used other planners in the past.. Any planner I have used has helped me keep my mind untangled.. I have a little notebook I keep in my purse as I don't carry my FF with me. I jot things down in it and at the end of the day I will write in where I need to in my FF.I think it is very calming too, knowing that my thoughts, plans and anything I don't want to forget is just a reach away.

I'm a big book reader so I think of my FF as MY book and I like to go back and read from days back. I get tickled sometimes at some of the things I write in there .. did I really need to remind myself I went to Staples? Its almost my second home..

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-11-16 07:38:41)

This comment has been removed by the author.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-11-16 07:39:31)

I find that if I don't have anything specific to do, no appointments or major priorities, I can quite easily vegetate for ages, just sitting on my sofa and watching TV. This turns into a vicious cycle, where for days and days I get nothing done and I fall into a pit of laziness. At these times I neglect my filofax, which of course means I am neglecting my time management. It is usually at times like this that I feel planner fail! So sitting down with my filofax and writing down my to-dos and priorities, even if I don't have any appointments, means that I can really focus and connect with the real world again!!

David Popely (2012-11-16 07:43:02)

After the internet (which is being dealt with), television is the biggest thief of time for me. Twice before we've gone no-television for several months, but each time we've come back. This time, paradoxically, I don't think we're going to get rid of it, but I agree - it's something that needs to be handled.

Not as much as the internet though....it's far too easy to log in to 'quickly check' email and wind up five hours later reading 'interesting' articles about Bulgarian crop-spraying policy in the 1920s, or looking at images of cats in funny hats (got some of those.....)

Wyona (2012-11-16 08:17:17)

If they A5 is still available, I am desperate for that exact set up.

Anita (2012-11-16 08:25:56)

Yes, well done on your sales. I enjoy selling to other Philofaxy readers as everyone is so nice. Must sell my remaining 2 slimlines as I'm absolutely smitten with my Ascot!

Wyona (2012-11-16 08:29:54)

David,

Sorry for not introducing myself. I got so excited when I read your post. I am a Philofaxy fan living in the US and this is my first post. I just emailed the Filofax UK offices yesterday trying to get the 2013 Time Management inserts. I switched to FF from FC ending a 15 year love affair. I'm very happy with A5 and I love reading everyone's posts.

David Popely (2012-11-16 08:37:00)

Hi Wyona - yes they are still available, and now have your name on them.....drop me an email at david-popely(at)googlemail(dot) com and we can sort something out.....

David Popely (2012-11-16 08:39:04)

Hi Anita

I'm keeping my personal vintage Hampstead - it's a lovely binder and has many sentimental memories for me, which is why I let the Malden go.

You're right - people here are *so* nice....big group hug all round, I think :D

Maria (2012-11-16 09:49:12)

Absolutely! In my A5 RAspberry Finsbury I have a dedicated section on things in my life that I need to keep track of in order to stay healthy and happy (work/family/friends time ratio, sleep, time out of doors every week, how much exercise and yoga I do etc). I review it weekly and that helps to bring back focus to what I *really* need to prioritize every week. In the middle of a busy work week it's so easy to get carried away and spend time on things that seem very urgent and important at the time at the expense of other things you also need, don't you think? I'm recovering from a burn out, so I have to be extra careful what I do with my time and energy.

David Popely (2012-11-16 09:53:25)

The Stephen Covey importance/urgency quadrants grid is very helpful in this respect. It's the things which are urgent which often shout more loudly than the truly important.....

EmmaNoey (2012-11-16 10:04:37)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Tim (2012-11-16 10:06:22)

Hi David, Alison et al - I can't entirely agree about ignoring emails and leaving the answering machine on.

Expectations can be unrealistic and I think it depends in which sector you work in. My business is renting cottages and apartments for short breaks and holidays. A few years ago, you weren't expected to be available 24/7 and could return a call the next day. However, nowadays, if you haven't responded to an email enquiry within a couple of hours, you can virtually guarantee the potential customer will have gone elsewhere - usually to the big holiday cottage agency call centre that dominates the market and can afford to have the 'phones manned around the clock! Despite putting all the answers to virtually every question on my website and offering real-time 100 % accurate availability charts, it's just too easy to fire off a "High Priority" email or text. The result is that I find that the "me" time (used to be called "red time"), I used to have with my planner, thinking strategy, long-term goals and doodle-dreaming, is regularly getting interrupted as I need to respond to "urgent" messages and requests.

Sadly, we very much live in a world of "I want it and I want it NOW!"

David Popely (2012-11-16 10:12:41)

hi Tim!

I'm still reminded of the old George Bernard Shaw quote....

"The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man."

I'm planning on staying unreasonable!

Tim, would you be interested in a black leather TMI classic size binder with wallet? Wrap-around strap and clasp, needs new sectional dividers (you'll know what this means!) but the Key Area dividers are fine....

Can throw in a *big* pile of inserts and about 200 sheets of blank Original size printer paper, but would need a diary set for 2013.....

Let me know if you're interested.....

EmmaNoey (2012-11-16 10:17:46)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Clareio (2012-11-16 11:13:02)

<http://www.colemans-online.co.uk/filofax/>

ive not seen anyone link to this yet... but CHEAP FILOFAXES!

mstraat (2012-11-16 11:22:02)

Anita, could you email me about the slimlines? Which ones and how much? Thanks! mstraat@neb.rr.com

Cheryl (2012-11-16 11:27:24)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Cheryl (2012-11-16 11:48:09)

Okay I did not mean to delete my comment but nonetheless...I've had quite a 24 hour period of technical difficulties starting with email hack yesterday and other issues today. Anyway, to summarize—after 20 years of servicing the US auto industry as a consultant I've had to set boundaries otherwise I would be like the previous account managers who ran like chickens with no heads. Big risk setting those boundaries as those accounts were 80 % of our business but necessary for good working relations. To be honest, they got some kind of enjoyment out of seeing their vendors sweat and say 'how high' every time they said 'jump' but with exemplary customer service from us and the inability of other vendors to deliver what they needed, we were able to even the playing field.

On a personal note, when the autos had their troubles and ceased to offer the services we provided, I had several opportunities to go out on my own or start my own consulting group. But because of the things mentioned above I decided not to. As a small business owner it seems you are 'on' 24/7 and that is not in line with my personality at this stage in life. From MBTI and several other career consults and personality profiles, it seems that I MUST retreat now and then in order to recharge. It was getting to the point where I didn't even want to talk to anyone after work until I realized that I was always on the go, go, go and now that I'm older and wiser (lol) I do let calls go to vm and I even send regrets to some social things. Expectations are so high these days it is physically and mentally exhausting. I took back control.

Helen Conway (2012-11-16 12:00:16)

Back when I still had clients in the private sector I used to say to them that they should feel free to contact me any time in my business hours if they have an emergency and I would endeavour to drop everything to help them. However, if they found I was not available to them it would be because I gave all my clients the same good service and it would be because I was dealing with an emergency for someone else and I would get back to them as soon as I could. This piece of nonlogic worked everytime because as most clients thought everything they needed from me was an emergency they could accept that other people have emergencies too. They never seemed to work out that I might actually be ringfencing time for routine things before they became emergant!

Clara (2012-11-16 12:05:00)

Does anyone have templates for the month on a page/two pages but for pocket size? x

David Popely (2012-11-16 12:09:08)

Those of you who have been following (or participating in!) my rationalisation of Filofax binders and inserts over the past week or so might like to take a look at our new blog (as yet embryonic), One Tiny Cottage

www.onetinycottage.wordpress.com

which gives some of the background to what's going on. I *know* this is a shameless plug, but we are serious about this, and if you would like to subscribe you may even be able to help us along if you need any of the Stuff (as well as Filofaxes) which is going to start appearing. Mutual benefit is great!

I have been so grateful to all you lovely people who have helped this week (you know who you are), and a number of items are still winging their way across the world to various new homes.

Watch this space!

Leah Greentree (2012-11-16 12:09:44)

I've been driving my self crazy the last couple weeks. I had planned to purchase a personal Ostrich FF once it came back in stock, but while waiting the Osterley in Grey & Orange has caught my eye.

I put in an order for the orange Osterley on Monday, but later that evening canceled it because I had second thoughts & decided to wait for the Ostrich to come back in stock. Who knew picking a FF was so tough :)

kanalt (2012-11-16 12:14:37)

When I went on vacation last year, it was the best vacation I had ever been on, and I think that's mainly due to the fact that we never turned the TV on, we never made phone calls, we never surfed the web, and we didn't listen to the radio. It was 7 days of uninterrupted relaxation and being truly unplugged. It was wonderful! I returned feeling so relaxed and ready to face what work lay ahead. At home, however, I find this very hard to do, even when I schedule the time in my Filofax. When I'm home, there a million and one things that "need" to get done. They are all written down, so ignoring them isn't a problem as far as worrying that I forget them. It's more of an issue because I feel if I have the time, I should make the most of it. For me, the only way I can truly unplug is to PAY to fly somewhere. When I'm not at home, I CAN'T do anything, and that makes all the difference. I try to schedule down time, but life is life and it rarely happens the way you plan...

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 12:23:21)

Tim - I totally understand that some businesses have to run differently from others and can see where you are coming from. I would not expect you to come back to me asap (I'd probably get jumpy after 24 hours), however I suppose if people are booking holidays and have two or three windows open with possibilities they sort of get to the point where they want to book it NOW! Doesn't make it reasonable or right, but I can understand why you feel that way.

It's interesting that despite having all the info they still feel compelled to want to talk to you as well - I wonder if this proves the 'people buy from people' rule - in other words they want to like you as well as your holiday homes.

Helen Conway (2012-11-16 12:25:25)

Every woman in my maternal family uses the same system known as 'columns' albeit using different stationery. Having had it pass from mother to daughter we now have the menfolk trained too! Adapted to my own filofaxing preferences, the basics are:

1. Budget sheet. Mine is a yellow sheet in my personal at the moment. It lists how income is allocated so just a list mortgage £xxx food £yyy etc. that's basically a reference sheet for you to remember how you set your budget up
2. Spending records. I now use a chameleon as a wallet so I have the pocket finance sheets and right as I spend I jot down what I am spending. You can do that in the time it takes for the credit card to process. Previously I did it by keeping receipts and writing them down in finance sheets in my personal later.
3. monthly sheets (actually done as often as you want to check your spending. But I always do it at least once a month. I can get away with that as there is now a lot of give in my budget but back when I was a student and newly qualifyin I might do this weekly. This is where the 'columns' come from as my Mum and sister and husband use finance books with ruled columns. I do it on lined paper as a list but the name stuck.. Same result. This sheet I date and I list and add up my sources of money (usually cash in current account, cash in purse, any uncashed cheques and any money owed me). From that I list and deduct any credit card balances because if it is on a card the money is spent and so comes off your still available total even if it is in the bank still. That gives me an available to spend total. I bank online so all figures are bang up to date but you still have to remember to account for very recent credit card purchases that have not yet appeared on online statement.

Underneath the available totals I then list my budget items in the same way they are on the budget sheet. But this time the figure I write down is what it was at the start of the month less what I spent according to my pocket finance sheets. At the end of the month a column might have money left in it in which case I will decide to transfer it either to savings accounts or to another column so I have more the next month. The whole point of sticking to a budget is that a column will never have a minus figure but sometimes I move money from one allocated purpose to another. For example, I had one month where I didn't drive as much as usual and left over petrol money went to my spend column and bought a Holborn A5!! A friend who works with school budgets says this is called 'viamenting'.

Because some of my columns (allocations) are cumulative such as a monthly save towards clothes or holidays, the figure at the start of each month will not necessarily be the same as the budget sheet but the budget sheet tells me what to add. So say I save £200 a month for clothes which I tend to buy in occasional shopping trips.. That is what the budget sheet says. At the end of October when I reconcile my bank accounts I have £323 left

in my clothes column. So when I start again with a new sheet for the beginning of October my monthly sheet would show £523. If on 11th Nov I spend £70 on shoes, when I come to check available money on say 20th Nov I deduct that and the new sheet shows clothes as £453.

Anyone still reading this? It sounds a faff but it is actually quite simple and best, it works to keep you out of debt.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 12:30:29)

TPS - I know exactly how you feel - I believe that TV and internet are great ways of 'vegging' out, but can take over. Using a planner is a great way of getting back on track.

Paul B (2012-11-16 12:35:29)

David, glad it has been so successful for you, on the downsizing front, both picture with the cottage, and small picture, with the binder sales. This really is a great community and reminds me of the very first days of the internet, when nobody attacked other users for no reason. And such a brilliant source of ideas and inspiration too. Long may it continue. Good luck with the move!

David Popely (2012-11-16 12:41:10)

A client told me a year or two back, "I'm on holiday in Boston for the next fortnight, but it's OK, because I'll have my phone and my laptop with me and I'll be checking my email continuously".

I despair of some people. This person wasn't going on holiday they were transferring their work from their usual location....

For reasons of temperament we rarely travel away when we're on holiday - but when we *are* on holiday, I *guarantee* you won't get hold of me! :D

David Popely (2012-11-16 12:46:42)

Thanks Paul! This is a very big deal for us, so I really appreciate the comment and good wishes....

Alison Reeves (2012-11-16 15:12:10)

Helen - thank you so much for this and taking the trouble to type it out. I think I will need to read it through more than once, but I can see that it can become second nature with practice. I'm sure I can adapt the idea to what I need - and what a wonderful thought that it has been handed down by the ladies in your family!

Diliana Imandieva (2012-11-16 15:57:26)

I just spotted the iPad zipped A5 Filofax in Red and Purple! Have anyone use this cause I am very tempted, though I am definitely a Pocket girl I am prepared to swap for the sake of having the iPad and the Filofax in one xxx

Tim (2012-11-16 17:09:25)

Thanks everyone - an interesting exchange of views. Fortunately over half our business is repeat or recommendation and these are the nicest and most understanding guests who recognise the need for family and private life!

I find that phone calls are less of a problem than texts and emails. Somehow folk expect you to respond to these in minutes or nano seconds! Even late at night!

In short, whatever we do, it's vital that we all find "planner planning time!".

Many thanks David, but I dare not buy more organisers. Like many on here, I've got to have a cull myself!

Ro (2012-11-16 21:56:32)

Will be following along and cheering you on!

2nd Filofaxy North - West Meet Up - 1st December 2012 (2012-11-16 12:00)
- Steve Morton



[1]

Just to confirm the North West (Manchester) Meet Up is going ahead on Saturday 1st December 2012. We will meet at BHS Coffee Bar, Market Street, Manchester, M1 1WN at anytime from 9-10am, I'm hoping to arrive by 9am so long as my train is on time. I would appreciate if I don't already have your mobile no that you email it to me so we can communicate should you not be able to make it or are running late etc alisoncarroll5(at)btinternet(dot)com.

If you can't make it there for 10am but would like to attend you can drop me a text and we can arrange to meet later.

I'm really looking forward to this Meet Up and look forward to meeting you all again, we had a great time at the last meet up and hopefully some newbies will attend this time - everybody welcome!!!

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Alison

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_X-eOoWt1rI/UKY9DmocTKI/AAAAAAAAODk/7BzY2T4a1Ac/s1600/keep-calm-and-attend-the-north-west-meet-up-3.png

Emily Stanley (2012-11-21 10:13:17)

Just to let you guys know who are heading to the Manchester meet up, TK Maxx (two shops down from BHS) have got quite a lot of Filofax in, including all the flex range. £3.99 for the pocket to £7.99 for the A5 - an absolute steal! Hope they've still got some left when you guys meet) :)

Web Finds 17 November 2012 (2012-11-17 00:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from around the internet, bought to you whilst I'm on a train speeding north to Edinburgh on Friday afternoon!

1. [1]Ask Jeff - Tip for Using Outlook with Paper Planner? - Day-Timer Blog
2. [2]Das DpP Professional als Scrapbook - Filomaniac
3. [3]guest post from Alice :) - Paper Lovestory
4. [4]Going 'vintage'; Arrival of my new Filofax Personal Windsor! - My Filo World
5. [5]Printing Tutorial for Personal Size Filofax Inserts - Lime Tree
6. [6]My Filofax Week 7 - Glossette
7. [7]Pre-Punched Inserts: Reinforcement Rings - Planning with Printed Portal

8. [8]Perfect punching for A5s - All Things Stationery
9. [9]New Dividers - Jagged Little Thoughts
10. [10]Filofax frustrations!@ # \$ % ^ & * - Behind my Purpley Life
11. [11]Old planner page storage dilemma with a side order of enabling - The Crazy Suburban Mom
12. [12]Big is beautiful - Filomaniac
13. [13]Being more Flex(able) !! - Filo Obsessed
14. [14]Day Per Page Inserts - JarFM
15. [15]3-in-1 Post: Personal Ochre Malden Filofax - The Storage Studio
16. [16]A Quick Overview... - LJ's Blog of Stuff
17. [17]Planner Sighting: Hidden in the Library - Well Planned Life
18. [18]Big honking boo-hoo.... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
19. [19]365/30: If you were a Filofax... - Filomaniac
20. [20]Finding the Love for Filofax again..... - Imysworld
21. [21]Old Filofax inserts - Cloudberry Musings
22. [22]Vintage Navy Blue Winchester - Cloudberry Musings
23. [23]Spicing up my Filofax; Filofax decorating My Filo World
24. [24]Colour Combinations Filofax - Jagged Little Thoughts
25. [25]Journals, Planners and Lists...Oh My! - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
26. [26]Filofax 2 – a look inside my FF. The Yarn Yard
27. [27]A Week With Ms. Holborn - Friday, I'm in Love
28. [28]GTD - bleurgh!!! - LJ's Blog of Stuff
29. [29]Spread It All Out - LJ's Blog of Stuff
30. [30]Personal Organisation Binder Setup - And Failure..... - LJ's Blog of Stuff
31. [31]Filofax Blog of the Week: Jarfm.com - My Life All in One Place
32. [32]North West (Manchester) Meet Up - details - Filo Obsessed
33. [33]That Thing Thursday - My Once Upon the Moon
34. [34]Eliminate Overwhelm With a Task List - Homemakers Daily
35. [35]New A-Z Inserts for my Telephone Numbers - Planning with Printed Portal
36. [36]custom notepaper inserts (4 different designs!) - Paper Lovestory
37. [37]A5 Printing Tips for Filofax Inserts - Lime Tree

News Announcements

- Whilst the gathering of these posts is mainly automatic, their inclusion in each post does require my presence, if I'm not present as was the case on Tuesday, posts not included in one web finds post will be included in the next one.
- Can all bloggers please include a 'Recent Posts' widget in your side bar if you don't already have one... it is a big help to me when it comes to adding your posts to these lists. Thank you!
- Places still available for next Saturdays London Meet Up, we have a surprise guest coming to the meet up. Please contact Steve asap if you would like to attend [steve \[at\] philofaxy \[dot\] com](mailto:steve@philofaxy.com)

Here are the latest Filofax videos from the internet:

IFRAME: [38]http://www.youtube.com/embed/5Dauq_xQW3c?rel=0
 IFRAME: [39]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/4JOwe6xyoSY?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [40]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/hdz-E1BoiLQ?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [41]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/-Nk0nGxJZq8?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [42]http://www.youtube.com/embed/VR-LDE_Zb0M?rel=0
 IFRAME: [43]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/EOBLINAOXiw?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [44]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/lLlyZ8mv94Y?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [45]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/zOUrFyb6LSk?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [46]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/16phdmyKXDc?rel=0>

Enjoy...

1. <http://daytimer.wordpress.com/2012/11/12/ask-jeff-tip-for-using-outlook-with-paper-planner/>
2. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/11/das-dpp-professional-als-scrapbook.html>
3. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/guest-post-from-alice.html>
4. <http://myfiloworld.com/going-vintage-arrival-of-my-new-filofax-personal-windsor/>
5. <http://www.limetreefruits.com/2012/11/printing-tutorial-for-personal-size-filofax-insertshtml>
6. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/11/12/my-filofax-week-7/>
7. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/11/13/pre-punched-inserts-reinforcement-rings/>
8. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/11/perfect-punching-for-a5s.html>
9. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/new-dividers.html>
10. <http://mypurpleyleife.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-frustrations.html>
11. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/old-planner-page-storage-dilemma-with.html>
12. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/11/big-is-beautiful.html>
13. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/11/being-more-flexable.html>
14. <http://jarfm.com/?p=575>
15. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/11/3-in-1-post-personal-ochre-malden.html>
16. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/11/a-quick-overview.html>
17. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/11/planner-sighting-hidden-in-library.html>
18. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/big-honking-boo-hoo.html>
19. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/36530-if-you-were-filofax.html>
20. <http://imysworld.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/finding-love-for-filofax-again.html>
21. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/old-filofax-inserts.html>
22. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/vintage-navy-blue-winchester.html>
23. <http://myfiloworld.com/spicing-up-my-filofax-filofax-decorating/>
24. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/colour-combinations-filofax.html>
25. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/11/14/journals-planners-and-lists-oh-my/>
26. <http://theyarnyard.co.uk/blog/2012/11/15/filofax-friday-2-a-look-inside-my-ff/>
27. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/a-week-with-ms-holborn.html>
28. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/gtd-bleurgh.html>

29. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/spread-it-all-out.html>
30. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/personal-organisation-binder-setup-and.html>
31. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/blog-of-week-jarfmcom.html>
32. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/north-west-manchester-meet-up-details.html>
33. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/that-thing-thursday.html>
34. <http://homemakersdaily.com/eliminate-overwhelm-with-a-task-list/>
35. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/11/15/new-a-z-inserts-for-my-telephone-numbers/>
36. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/custom-notepaper-inserts-4-different.html>
37. <http://www.limetreefruits.com/2012/11/a5-printing-tips-for-filofax-insertshtml>
38. http://www.youtube.com/embed/5Dauq_xQW3c?rel=0
39. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/4J0we6xyoSY?rel=0>
40. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/hdz-E1BoiLQ?rel=0>
41. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/-Nk0nGxJZq8?rel=0>
42. http://www.youtube.com/embed/VR-LDE_Zb0M?rel=0
43. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/EOBLINA0XiW?rel=0>
44. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/1LlyZ8mv94Y?rel=0>
45. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/z0UrFyb6LSk?rel=0>
46. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/16phdmyKXDc?rel=0>

Lime Tree (2012-11-17 00:35:17)

A surprise guest?! ooohhh will we get to know just afterwards when people blog about it? :D

LJ (2012-11-17 01:17:15)

Thanks for including my posts Steve. I'm trying to add the Recent Posts widget but it's just erroring at the moment but I'll try again later. :o)

Cloudberry (2012-11-17 02:21:45)

I had the same problem, so I took it off.

Maus (2012-11-18 06:23:24)

Have you seen the gorgeous new Malden colour "aqua" on e Filofax UK site???

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/businessandsocial.asp?catid=6 &tn=1 &control=processrequest &rId=150>

Steve: Do you know anything about it? Is this a new colour coming for the Malden line? Or do they only have it for the e-reader or iPad sleeves?

Hoping Renate :-)

Steve Morton (2012-11-18 08:49:45)

Hi, Well spotted that could be a new colour for next year, might get news in the next couple of weeks about next years range changes.

Steve

Anita (2012-11-19 05:03:59)

I have a recent post about another filofax competition on my blog & hope you don't mind me mentioning it here as not in the list :)

[1]<http://anita-lim.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/its-movember-time-for-another-filofax.html>

1. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/its-movember-time-for-another-filofax.html>

Steve Morton (2012-11-19 05:11:46)

It's in tomorrow's Doing webfinds on my small notebook PC is not the easiest thing to do!



[1]

Today I would like to introduce you to another one of our readers Cherry.

Hi, I'm Cherry. I'm from the UK and I'm addicted to stationary. There, I said it. I'm a mother, designer and a firm lover of everything vintage.

I have a [2]blog where I sometimes talk about my Filofaxes amongst other things

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

I had a Funfax addiction as a kid! I had several of them and all I wanted for my birthday each year was some more inserts. As an adult I brought a cherry red Metropol in personal size in 2008/9 whilst in my last year of Uni and it changed my life.

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

I've never really used any other brand of ring organiser like this, I just went straight for Filofax!

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

My favourite at the moment is my Swift Personal. It's pretty, but am toying with trying to move to my slimline.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

At last count - seven. It's possible I have one or two more than that in storage! I've a Flex A5, Flex Slim, Metropol Personal in red, Hearts Personal, Swift Personal, Metropol Slimline in Black & Songbird Pocket in Purple.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

How I use it has changed dramatically since I brought my first. Back then I was in my final year of Uni and very disorganised with many many exams and deadlines. Thankfully my Filofax kept me in control of it all and I graduated without incident.

These days I'm a mum, and in-between that I've used it to organise meetings for work. Right now I use the Organised Mum Pick n Mix inserts along with a Filofax diary and use it all to keep on top of family life. I really wish Filofax would sell the Family Organiser Pack in the UK as it'd be the ultimate answer for me!

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

The ability to customise. I just couldn't use any other organiser as I'd never have the flexibility I have now to add/ take away pages and swap them between organisers.

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

I always lust after the more expensive Filofax ranges sadly. I love the look of the Deco and the Malden, but I'm vegan so all the leather organisers are off limits for me. If I could design my own it'd be something that shared some of those ranges lovely features but in a gorgeous textured faux leather.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

I just throw it in my handbag/ satchel / nappy bag!

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

I'm lusting after a Pennybridge Compact in red. I'm trying not to buy it as I'm sure my better half would tell me I don't need any more, but I probably will!

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

Around £30 on my Swift, but I've spent far more on what goes inside it!

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

I love the reader spotlights! It's really inspiring to see how others use their organisers and i'm always getting new ideas.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

Well, that's tough. I'm pretty sure that there isn't anything I dislike. I guess the only downside is that I spend far too much time reading it!

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

I love music. The last album was The Gaslight Anthem - Handwritten.

Thank you Cherry for offering to go under our spot light. And if any one else would like to feature in a Reader Under The Spotlight of their own them please contact us at philofaxy at gmail dot com

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-BECtoinv5Sw/UKD9Ex2SuiI/AAAAAAAAAN-0/606Db6bAdA0/s1600/photo+copy+2.JPG>

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

Amanda (2012-11-18 00:14:19)

I love reading about other moms and how they use their Filos! Thanks Cherry!

Diliana Imandieva (2012-11-18 03:16:24)

Thanks Cherry! It was lovely to hear you here. I am after this red Pennybridge as well and I wonder when I will treat myself xxx

David Popely (2012-11-18 04:40:29)

Thanks Cherry for a great post - and for the tip-off re The Gaslight Anthem - I'm probably going to buy that.....

Alison Reeves (2012-11-18 07:18:34)

Nice to 'meet' you Cherry. It's a shame that Filofax don't do a 'luxury' planner for those who don't want leather - it must be frustrating as a lot of their non leather seem to be aimed at the very young market. I'm surprised they don't do something Cath Kidston-ish as that type of design is so popular.

Philofaxy Edinburgh Meet Up November 2012 (2012-11-19 00:00) - Steve Morton

I love attending Philofaxy meet ups... If you have never attended one then putting in to words the experience of a meet up is quite difficult. I've been trying to define what the magic of a meet up is for the last couple of years, but I've yet to find the right words...

So Edinburgh... Saturday 17th November.. Another new location, another group of people and another new city for me to visit. Although I had visited Edinburgh once before I didn't get to the city centre in the short time I was in Scotland so I don't really count that as a true visit.

I arrived by train late on Friday afternoon and after a bit of minor confusion on my part I found my way to my hotel in the old part of the city. I hadn't realised how hilly the centre of Edinburgh is, up and down you go like a roller coaster! It's a lovely city even at this time of year. I would love to come back in the Spring or Summer to see the place a bit more.

On Saturday morning we met up in a small cafe adjacent to the station, it was great to put faces to names, and importantly to meet Laurie again... it had been two and a half years since [1]we last met up in London back in April 2010. I suppose having the two of us there was spoiling our meet up group attendees, but they deserved it!

As usual it didn't take long before various Filofax organisers appeared out of bags and rucksacks, and then they started to do the rounds of the table. There was quite a mixture of new and old, which was great to see. We even attempted a 'stack' although it was a little shaky and needed some careful balancing to prevent it from toppling over!

After lunch we made our way to Jenners department store, where the Pen Shop store manager Laura was expecting our small party and enjoyed hearing about the blog and what we get up to. It was pleasing to see she is a Filofax Malden user herself. She was given a stack of Philofaxy cards... to spread the word of course! Although their area in the store isn't very large, the range of stock they had on display was quite impressive, from Temperleys at one end of the scale to the Apex at the other. They also carry a full range of inserts for all sizes too.

Laurie had taken a fancy to my Ochre Personal Malden at lunchtime, sadly I didn't have the Compact Zip

Malden with me to compare it with. But we used a Pennybridge to compare the interior and discussed the pros and cons of each one. Laurie thought she was out of luck, but she then discovered at the back of the display a Ochre Personal Malden.... her grip on it was firm.... she wasn't going to let it go or put it back... after some further discussion and consideration, she stepped to the counter and purchased her [2]first Malden.... welcome to the club Laurie!!

We also got to look at some Mont Blanc organisers, these aren't cheap £325 for the personal size I think, but they do ooze quality and the inserts are very nice. We all liked the very large pen loop, naturally big enough to hold a Mont Blanc fountain pen. The Pen Shop have a full range of Mont Blanc products.

We then made our way to the Paperchase store, although it only has a small frontage I was surprised how big the store was inside and also the number of people in there and the queues at the tills. We all had a good look around and it was fun spotting things like sticky notes and stationery we had seen in different You Tube videos and blog posts!

We made our way back to the station to say our good byes and it snowed on the way! But it was the end of a brilliant day and everyone agreed we must do it again.

Thank you to everyone that came along and a thank you to the staff at The Pen Shop for answering all of our questions and letting us rifle through their 'Sales Box'

And finally some pictures of the day.



[3]

Jenners, the home of The Pen Shop



[4]



[5]

'The Stack'



[6]

Natalie and Gavin



[7]

Morag and Margaret[8]



Gavin

L-R Steve, Morag, Margaret, Natalie,



[9] Malden collection?

Just on loan from Steve, he won't miss one from his huge



[10]

This Malden is mine... says Laurie...[11]



Much!?

The terrible expression says it all.... How

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/philofaxy-london-meet.html>
2. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/im-finally-member-of-malden-club.html>
3. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-24Yqj9UKATU/UK100P-LjaI/AAAAAAAAOHA/TciKfuxJ4WE/s1600/Edinburgh+005.jpg>
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-hbkFiBV6EiA/UK104jWHEqI/AAAAAAAAOHI/onXdanID_TQ/s1600/Edinburgh+014.jpg
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-NwHNS2TNf0/UK10pcgEh3I/AAAAAAAAOGw/_vQYz0aU9Bs/s1600/2012-11-17+2012-11-17+001+002.JPG
6. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-ucwvB2tc3v0/UK1082nxxHI/AAAAAAAAOHQ/eVCNRdNKcT4/s1600/Edinburgh+016.jpg>
7. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-00TYXMDp1jk/UK1PAzxUKoI/AAAAAAAAOHY/pv2qBQt4DZ8/s1600/Edinburgh+017.jpg>
8. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-45oJsxioyuE/UK10tb7ZO_I/AAAAAAAAOGw/u2NhVhdL_QM/s1600/2012-11-17+2012-11-17+001+004.JPG
9. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-blfTs50umME/UK1PD3caYYI/AAAAAAAAOHg/Uo5vV4Yv7zA/s1600/Edinburgh+018.jpg>
10. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-HZNZmopCcd0/UK1PHvkv4MI/AAAAAAAAOHo/DG54wE70HvQ/s1600/Edinburgh+020.jpg>

11. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-wh0kPw6B2zQ/UK10w_w512I/AAAAAAAAOG4/IBrJDVqG1N4/s1600/2012-11-17+2012-11-17+001+005.JPG

Lord Dodo (2012-11-19 04:52:55)

Sounds brilliant. Hoping to escape this weekend on Saturday to join you if I can.

Suus S (2012-11-19 07:36:20)

O, I am so jealous! It looks great, especially the part of the visit to PaperChase and the pictures of the Pen Shop store. I love the PaperChase products. I did not drool over the pictures it, but what an amazing store. And the amount of Filofax inserts, just to die for. I do not know a great store in the Netherlands which has this big range of Filofax and/or PaperChase products.

Smart Sparkles (2012-11-19 08:19:28)

I am really jealous! I wish I could have a chance to meet all of you there in UK.

Cruz Johnson (2012-11-20 04:03:56)

Oh my GOD, look at all those inserts!

michele (2012-11-21 09:30:14)

How could you pull yourself away from that wall of inserts? I am so tempted by the Malden! Way to go Laurie!

Free For All Tuesday No. 94 (2012-11-20 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have. So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypH0Yfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

Suus S (2012-11-20 04:46:25)

I love the (homemade) diary inserts. The only thing I am dealing with is the cutting. I cannot get it nicely cut. I have a paper cutting machine or sometimes a small sharp craft knife and ruler. I like my paper nice, same size and neatly. Does anyone has this issue and how did you solve it?

Steve Morton (2012-11-20 05:03:57)

I've just bought two packs of 500 sheet, A5 paper via Amazon UK, I've used this paper before, it's standard copier paper, nothing posh, but at 80 gsm it does take more pens better than the normal FF paper.

The A5 paper will not duplex on my laser printer, but I know some printers can do this. So what I do is put a stack of paper in the manual feed tray and print ODD sides only, turn the paper over making sure the stack is in the right order, then print Evens only.

Don't forget to include printing the blank page at the start otherwise the pages end up in the wrong sequence.

Steve

Laurie (2012-11-20 05:17:18)

Anyone else who has a Malden and a Holborn, could you please compare the softness of the leathers, and tell me how old your Malden is? I remember 2 1/2 years ago when I first felt a Malden it felt buttery soft to me, like my Holborn does now. My Malden I bought over the weekend isn't nearly as smooth or soft as my Holborn. I wonder if the newer (crinkly) Malden leather isn't as soft as the old Malden leather?

Suus S (2012-11-20 05:21:58)

Thank you Steve for your commit. I also print my inserts like you do. But stupid me, I forgot to add that I have a Personal. Can you help me, please?????

Steve Morton (2012-11-20 05:39:15)

Ah that's ok. Well just the same... except I have printed on to Filofax Personal size paper!

Filofax sell the plain white paper as a value pack of 100 sheets, I've used this in the manual tray, but fan the pages first because when the paper is punched in the factory it tends to stick together. With this paper it will curl slightly after it has gone through the printer the first time. So I let the paper cool down put a heavy book on top of it and it flattens out again. Then print the other side in the same way.

For my diary insert for 2013 in my own personal I bought the Filofax cotton cream plain paper, this comes in 25 or 30 sheet packs a bit more expensive than the plain white, but it is nicer paper to write on.

Likewise I've had issues with getting all the paper the same size and cut neatly if you print on A4, hence why I print on to personal size paper.

Is the particular insert you want to print available from our selection on personal size paper? I need to enhance that side of our offering a bit more, a job for when I return home next week!

Cazzle (2012-11-20 05:45:02)

Hi Steve,

I would love to see the 2 days per page and the 2 pages per day (if you follow me!) ready to print on personal size paper :) the cutting is just too much faff for me. X

PaperMeister (2012-11-20 05:47:57)

I'd like to speak to Duplex owners out there.

I found this interesting Duplex on Ebay.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/Vintage-DUPLEX-Filofax-DHLF1-2-RARE-RARE-/221155524687?pt=UK_BOI_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item337de5804f

And it got me to wondering if I could find 2 old day planners and make my own out of the poly binder type thing. Would anyone out there happen to have measurements?

Or be willing to discuss the CONS of this model?

Suus S (2012-11-20 05:52:31)

O, great thank you for your information. I bought this week a lot of plain Filofax paper personal size. I prefer plain above lined paper. Give me more freedom in writing. I have been testing on printing on the plain paper and it comes out very nice. The only thing is that I sometimes it is printed to close to the holes in the paper. But I think that that a printing issue is.

I love your inserts. They are great! I don't know if there are some missing. I pretty much printed a lot on the A4 paper and been cutting it out, but it does not come out nicely. So I was on the right track with printing on the personal plain paper. Thank you once again for the information.

redlipstickandpearls (2012-11-20 06:25:07)

This may be a very odd question, but I would love to know are the FF card holders different sizes in certain countries? I like in Australia and all my business cards I want to keep in the front of my Metropol which I purchased from the US but all my business cards are too long to fit in...

Ling (2012-11-20 06:25:21)

I have a buttery soft personal Holborn, I LOVE the leather. I had a grey A5 Malden and have a Vintage pink mini and they don't even compare to the Holborn in terms of floppy, soft to the touch leather. I never got the Malden love. Well, I did for the looks, but not for the suppleness. I still can't believe they're made of the same leather. The Holborn folds up on itself.

So I think this is very interesting. Thanks for pointing it out. It makes me want to touch an older ochre personal Malden.

Tim (2012-11-20 06:43:23)

Another area where there is no agreement around the world! In the UK and most of Europe the standard business card is 85mm x 55mm - the same as a credit card. In Australia, New Zealand and some Nordic countries it is 90mm x 55mm. The USA still sticks to Imperial measures and is 3.5 inches x 2 inches - that's 89mm x 51mm (roughly).

Only slight differences, but enough to stop you getting a good fit in your Filofax!

Chris Pearson (2012-11-20 07:02:11)

I've just bought a Mulberry Planner and it's fantastic, got everything I need from Mulberry except a "To Do" section.

I've e-mailed Succes in Holland to ask if their Senior "To Do" sheets will fit but as yet no response received, could anyone confirm if that would work?

I'm not into DIY as photocopying and hole punching isn't my strong point :-)

cheers,

Chris (Mr)

redlipstickandpearls (2012-11-20 07:02:21)

Wow! I just read over that post, really wasn't worded the best, (damn iPad lol) it's rather interesting. I thought business cards were a generic size, never thought they would be different across the world, you really do learn something new everyday...

Chris Pearson (2012-11-20 07:02:56)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Mike Devonald (2012-11-20 07:53:16)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Neil (2012-11-20 08:06:53)

I noticed that the fly sheets in this vintage slimline on Ebay (http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/221155470528?-ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT & _trksid=p3984.m1438.l2649) appear to be very thick and made of some type of plastic.

What a brilliant idea, compared to the rubbish clear plastic sheet that is supplied in the modern binders. If anyone at Filofax reads this, I'd certainly be willing to pay (perhaps a couple of quid each) for fly sheets of better quality.

Doris (2012-11-20 08:18:37)

Hi, not odd at all because I wondered for a bit myself. I believe business and credit cards are different sizes because I can fit credit cards in the front cover of most filos, but business cards would be too big. Does that answer your question?

JasJan (2012-11-20 08:43:08)

Hi Laurie, I think I prefer the Holborn leather as it seems alot more natural to the Malden which I think is coated with something. In terms of being floppy, I would say my older Maldens were alot more floppy than the newer Purple ones I bought but I think that is due to the addition of some type of stiffener on the spine rather than the leather. Plus I do think the leather becomes better on both Holborn and Malden the more it is handled.

Laurie (2012-11-20 08:46:22)

JasJan thanks so much for this info. The more I read about it online the more it seems to me the stiffening around the spine is a feature of the newest Maldens because the older ones are much floppier.

I don't mind the stiffness so much, in fact I like it because it's easier to write in just holding it in my hands. I'm disappointed the leather isn't softer to touch because I had heard so much about the softness of the Maldens. Interestingly, the leather on the inside of the back cover is the softest on the whole binder. In the end, it's probably for the best as I wonder if this less-soft leather will wear better.

Tim (2012-11-20 08:50:59)

You've just caused me to rummage in an old box. Like many people, I kept one of each of my business cards from different jobs I've had over the years. All the early ones (1980's) are longer and narrow - imperial sized. My 1990's ones are all 90mmx55mm.

Only the batch I had printed when I became self-employed in 1998 are the modern credit card size. They'll outlive me. I've still got several hundred of the damn things!

Of course, it wasn't an issue with vintage Filofaxes, Time Managers etc. Most binders didn't have business card slots.

SamNottm13 (2012-11-20 09:08:26)

Ok, so I am looking to buy my first ever Filofax! I have an iPhone, but I like to have a standby A5 diary as back-up and quite frankly just love a bit of stationery! The main issue I currently have is my tendency to carry round bits of paper stuffed into my paper diary (bills etc) so that I have them to hand when needed. I don't see this tendency changing anytime soon, so I'm a bit stuck as to whether to go for a Personal sized Filofax or opt for the A5 instead, to make sure I can still have A4 pages folded in half easily....anyone else have this issue, and does anyone have any advice for me? I'm tempted by either the Personal Metropol or A5 Domino at the moment...

Babs (2012-11-20 09:15:23)

I've just linked Helen's guest post on her health filofax to someone (<http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/08/guest-post-helen-health-filofax.html>) and I just wondered if Helen had any updates for us on how her set-up is working out.

Clareio (2012-11-20 09:43:39)

I THINK that there are business card holders AND credit card holders (not necessarily filofax brand) as the two are definitely different sizes... i have a business card holder that came with my holborn and credit cards are too tall for it and end up sticking out the top, business cards fit perfectly.

Liz Vee (2012-11-20 12:50:48)

I don't comment much because I don't own a Filofax, but I am a daily and avid reader of philofaxy. I currently cannot afford to buy one at the prices I have found, so i thought i would turn to you wonderful bunch of people! I anybody has an A5 they want to sell to a new home or knows of a good deal somewhere I would greatly appreciate it! I am in desperate need of a real organization tool, but i usually have to choose between food and filofax lol. Thanks very much ! This would be a great benefit to my littlefamily :)

Laurie (2012-11-20 13:37:57)

Hi Liz, I have an A5 Domino in red that I've been thinking of getting rid of. If you would like to have it, I'd be happy to send it to you for free. If red isn't your color or if you'd rather have a different binder that's totally fine. You can see the binder in my post about it here:

<http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/04/my-new-a5-domino-filofax-with-dod-o-pad.html>

I can also include the week on 2 pages vertical diary inserts that came with the A5 Boston I got recently, there are weekly pages for the rest of this year and all the way through 2013. That would get you started at least then if you wanted different diary pages you could either print or buy something different.

If you would like to have my red A5 Domino, or would like more information about it, just email me at [laurie at plannerisms dot com](mailto:laurie@plannerisms.com) ! :)

indigogarden (2012-11-20 13:54:55)

I own a Crimson Malden that I purchased early in 2012 and a Brown Holborn Slimline that I purchase in August of 2012. The Holburn's leather is more supple and softer and the binder more floppy. Between the multitude of pockets and the thin supple leather, I find this to be a great slimline wallet. The Malden's leather is quite nice, but I find that the binder has some sort of foundation inside that helps the binder keep its shape, plus it has more levels of pockets that make it a little stiffer. The leather is still wonderful and has a certain softness to it, but it is not as supple as the Holborn. I don't mind this aspect in the Malden because it makes it easier to write in when on the go. I find that I like both of the Filofax organizers equally.

LJ (2012-11-20 14:31:09)

Hi Laurie, I also have both Malden and Holborn binders and love them both. The leather on the Maldens is much sturdier than that of the Holborns though. The Holborns are just super soft and smooth whereas the Maldens feel a bit more rugged. My Maldens are all relatively new though (all bought within the last year). Although I find the Holborns softer to touch, I love the textured feel of my Ochre and Purple Maldens - the red is totally different...

Suzee Neal (2012-11-20 15:04:36)

i noticed on the filofaxusa site they are having a HALF OFF sale going on for a couple of days maybe til thursday?? It is on just certain items though, not all of them lol I just saw it in my email box and thought I would share, if anyone in States interested.. (or anywhere else if you like) They also have gift box sets too. good deals.. Im tempted to get another lol

gmax (2012-11-20 15:40:58)

They were made in two different widths. The narrow variant suffered the disadvantage that the pages overlap even when fully open. And the wide version requires care in closing to make sure one stack of leaves sits above the other correctly.

Cheryl (2012-11-20 18:39:47)

Call me crazy but I returned a black Personal Malden a few months ago because it was so crinkley and didn't feel soft at all. Although I have a grey Malden A5 and Pocket which I love, they are so soft and smooth and buttery. The just this past Friday I returned a black Holborn that I only had a few days. I just didn't love it. Am I the only one? Yes, the leather was very soft and the pocket configuration was great. But I just found it so...I don't know. Plain? I tried to love it but it just reminded me too much of the many Franklin Covey binders I've had over the years. So I returned the Holborn in exchange for the grey Personal Malden. I didn't like the black Malden's leather so I am hoping I will like the grey Personal as much as I like the grey A5 and grey Pocket. When I sent my Holborn back they had grey Personals in stock. Today I look online and they are out. So now I don't know if they already filled my order or if I'll be waiting awhile for it. I hope I love this one and keep it because the return shipping is killing me. Call me indecisive.

Liz Vee (2012-11-20 21:13:42)

I emailed you :)

MTMTE (2012-11-21 01:08:17)

I originally started my FF obsession with a Personal Crimson Malden....still have it because I can't even imagine parting with it. I also bought an Ochre about a year ago in the same size, and whilst I loved its beauty, I never really loved its feel. Having now experienced Holborns, I can't call the Maldens soft....they're floppy, not soft. The holborn is truly soft (and, by the way, the holborns achieve much greater consistency between colours and sizes). I've since sold both a personal and A5 ochre malden as I just never clicked with them despite loving how they looked. I've since realised that the HOborn is my absolute favourite model as it's sophisticated, soft, sooth, smells right, and feels like leather (not too thin and not painted like crimson Malden). I now have a Compact, Personal & A5 holborn collection and I can't imagine ever tiring of them because they feel the way I want my filofax to feel.

swatibee (2012-11-21 02:39:09)

I've got a bunch of A5 calendars as well if you need more than one or if another strikes your fancy, they're up on adspot (the sale page) but I'm happy to post what you'd like to you free, they just want someone to love them :-)
email me at sarahelps [at] hotmail [dot] com

David Popely (2012-11-21 04:22:34)

Hi Liz, did you get yourself sorted? Late to the party here due to being in London yesterday, but update appreciated.

Laurie (2012-11-21 06:39:41)

Hi Liz, the red A5 Domino is going out to you today! I loaded it with weekly pages from now through the end of 2013, colored paper, A-Z tabs and address pages, a new notepad in the back and a Today marker so it will be good to go straight out of the wrapper! I hope you love it! It really is a great binder and the red color is really nice, great for home or work or anywhere. I'll email you let you know what the postage was and what the post office says about delivery time.

PaperMeister (2012-11-21 09:53:42)

Thanks, gmax! Sure appreciate the information=
PaperMeister

gmax (2012-11-21 14:13:39)

Good luck if you decide to try a DIY model PaperMeister.

For the wide model the gap between the rings is just enough to allow the two stacks of pages to sit next to one another - so twice the width of the pages plus about one ring diameter. My DVF7/8 model has a gap between the ring centres of just under 8".

PaperMeister (2012-11-22 01:05:09)

Gmax,

Thanks for the intel!

Do you have a Flickr account or website where you have pictures posted perhaps?

PaperMeister=
PaperMeister

Liz Vee (2012-11-22 11:15:15)

Thanks for all the replies! Now to wait.... :)

Chris Pearson (2012-11-22 13:46:09)

Never got a reply from Succes so took a gamble on the Oxford A5 Activebook and it works perfectly.

Paul B (2012-11-22 15:26:19)

I used to have a DUplex in the 80s when I was in the Armed Forces. I still have one now, but its vinyl, military issue binder, not the leather one I used to have. Think I have a photo on FLikr. If not, I will upload a couple for you, so you can see it in close up. I like them, they are ideal to separate business and work in one binder. The narrow version did mean the ends of the pages mesh but its not a big deal. The wider version avoids this but the binder is bigger as a result. I saw the vintage one but think its way overpriced. They don't come up that often but I think 125 pounds is a bit too much for a starting bid. See what you think of the photos and hope it helps. In short, a great product which they should never have discontinued.

Paul B (2012-11-22 15:31:44)

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/burjmax/sets/72157630894384656/>

I only have one photo on there but I will take a couple of open ones so you can see how the pages lie.

gmax (2012-11-22 16:24:30)

The post [1]here has links to some photos of mine PaperMeister.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/duplex-binders-guest-post.html>

gmax (2012-11-22 18:19:57)

A DIY approach could also be used to make something similar to the Lefax "duplex" model from c.1992 called Charterhouse that was effectively two standard binders joined down one edge, with a cover extension that wrapped over. This was rather big when open and very chunky when shut! Quite fun though.

PaperMeister (2012-11-23 22:18:25)

Paul B: Thanks for the photo. I think I like the compactness (is that even a word?) of your military issue one. I'm really floored that Filofax hasn't brought them back. To me, it'd really be the ideal way of combining work and personal life in one volume.

Gmax: Great article—thank you so much for forwarding me to it! I have to admit, I'm quite envious of your 'babies.' I tried to search for the Charterhouse, but couldn't find a picture of it. I'm even more intrigued now than when I started my fact-finding mission=)

gmax (2012-11-24 05:17:09)

Glad you found it interesting. I have a Charterhouse that holds old diaries, which I plan to post pictures of sometime soon and will try to get them published on Philofaxy.

Paul B (2012-11-24 21:49:43)

Papermeister, I'll do a post on the Commanders Battle Book with more photos so you can see how it compares to a standard 7/8 binder next to it. The military binder has two sets of half-inch rings, and works perfectly for what it was designed to do. I also have a very special Duplex binder which I am picking up next time I'm back in UK, and which will be featured in an extra-long post on www.themusingsofmax.com as its quite a special binder. More to come.....

Paul B (2012-11-25 00:08:45)

I've just published a post for you on the Army Duplex Filofax at www.musingsofmax.com and the shortlink is: <http://wp.me/p2Dj6W-4h>

Hope it helps give you a better idea of how the pages lie and the overall size of the product. Gmax, I'd love to read a post on the Charterhouse!

Paul B (2012-11-25 00:09:10)

I've just published a post for you on the Army Duplex Filofax at www.musingsofmax.com and the shortlink is: <http://wp.me/p2Dj6W-4h>

Hope it helps give you a better idea of how the pages lie and the overall size of the product. Gmax, I'd love to read a post on the Charterhouse!

gmax (2012-11-25 10:46:02)

I enjoyed reading more about the army duplex thanks Paul.

I have an inkling of what the special one you mention might be.

Web Finds - 20 November 2012 (2012-11-20 12:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from the internet:

1. [1]It's Movember, time for another filofax competition - Anita Lim
2. [2]My mommy favorites - Filofax A5 Chameleon (red) - Haitian Girl
3. [3]Farewell to the Filofax(es) - MacPsych
4. [4]Handmade CUTE monthly calendar refills for 2013 :-)- Filofax Love

5. [5]Filofax Adventures Part.1- Swain's - Behind my Purpley Life
6. [6]Heart-Shaped Paper Clips For My Filofax - Typecast
7. [7]Get Femke a Scholarship to the Blogcademy - Delighted
8. [8]My First Filofax - Dishguts
9. [9]WIN ANOTHER FILOFAX - Anita Lim
10. [10]Five and half hours later and a few pounds lighter... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
11. [11]Filofax spotted in the wild! - All Things Stationery
12. [12]Eure Meinung ist gefragt! - Filomaniac
13. [13]Blick in die Zukunft - Filomaniac
14. [14]A very special offer arrived! :) - Lime Tree
15. [15]my filofax week #31 - Paper Lovestory
16. [16]Using Filofax for Design - Jagged Little Thoughts
17. [17]a question for a5 filofax users - Paperplane Thinking
18. [18]All change for 2013....it's a Filofax diary revamp.. - Modern Musings
19. [19]Sprinting Back to Paper - Well Planned Life
20. [20]Compact Filofax Dilemma: Malden vs. Holborn - The Storage Studio
21. [21]About my current Filofaxes - My Filo World
22. [22]Meet Bond, A5 Bond... - I love my stationery
23. [23]Bond is ready to go to work - I love my stationery
24. [24]I'm finally a member of the Malden club! - Plannerisms
25. [25]Philofaxy Edinburgh meetup, and my journey to Malden - Plannerisms
26. [26]365/30: Filofax inserts I use the most - Filomaniac
27. [27]Letts Baroque! - Cloudberry Musings
28. [28]My Filofax Week 8 - Glossette
29. [29]Consistency, Christmas and a Cuban surprise! - In Hope Of An Organised Life
30. [30]My new on-the-go 'fax (Slimline Filofax) - Planning With Printed Portal
31. [31]Old School Filofax Love - Mummy Tips
32. [32]Hot, Malden love... - The Crazy Suburban Mom

And here are the latest Filofax videos from the internet:

IFRAME: [33]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/wF71nWkypmI?rel=0>
IFRAME: [34]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Ux20ZlSO42M?rel=0>
IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/wfJ6qpJJeVw?rel=0>
IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Q0602DzWnMc?rel=0>
IFRAME: [37]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/zOUrFyb6LSk?rel=0>
IFRAME: [38]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/x-yKqOVlINQ?rel=0>
IFRAME: [39]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/XSLwgaEPFwA?rel=0>
IFRAME: [40]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/5dMqoAyKprg?rel=0>
IFRAME: [41]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/fq-d65CGS9E?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/its-movember-time-for-another-filofax.html>
2. <http://ann-shirley.blogspot.ca/2012/10/my-mommy-favorites-filofax-vs-day-timer.html>
3. <http://macpsych.me/2012/11/17/farewell-to-the-filofaxes/>
4. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/11/16/handmade-cute-monthly-calendar-refills-for-2013/>
5. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/filofax-adventures-part1-swains.html>
6. <http://www.iamtypecast.com/2012/11/heart-shaped-paperclips.html>
7. <http://delighted.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/get-femke-scholarship-to-blogcademy.html>
8. <http://www.dishguts.com/2012/11/my-first-filofax.html>
9. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.co.uk/p/competition.html>
10. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/five-and-half-hours-later-and-few.html>
11. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/filofax-spotted-in-wild.html>
12. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/eure-meinung-ist-gefragt.html>
13. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/blick-in-die-zukunft.html>
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16. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/using-filofax-for-design.html>
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24. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/im-finally-member-of-malden-club.html>
25. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/philofaxy-edinburgh-meetup-and-my.html>
26. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/36530-filofax-inserts-i-use-most.html>
27. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/letts-baroque.html>
28. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/11/19/my-filofax-week-8/>
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30. <http://planningwithprintedportal.wordpress.com/2012/11/20/my-new-on-the-go-fax-slimline-filofax/>
31. <http://www.mummy-tips.com/2012/11/old-school-filofax-love.html>
32. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/hot-malden-love.html>
33. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/wF71nWkypmI?rel=0>
34. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Ux20ZlSO42M?rel=0>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/wfJ6qpJJeVw?rel=0>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Q0602DzWnMc?rel=0>
37. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/zOUrFyb6LSk?rel=0>
38. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/x-yKqOVlINQ?rel=0>
39. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/XSLwgaEPFwA?rel=0>

40. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/5dMqoAyKprg?rel=0>

41. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/fq-d65CGS9E?rel=0>

Sian To (2012-11-22 14:24:00)

Thanks for including my post on Mummy-Tips. Much appreciated. x

Philofaxy Meet Up - Sydney 2013 (2012-11-21 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1] Photo: © Philip Morton Following a series of discussions and exchanges on one of the Facebook groups, a bunch of people in the Southern Hemisphere realised they were closer geographically than they originally thought! I of course chipped in with the idea of them meeting up *Philofaxy style*...

Arienne of [2]Life is Crafted fame has kindly offered to be the point of contact/co-ordinate the meet up in Sydney.

Arienne is thinking that there could potentially be a meet up in a bookstore in the Sydney Central Business District in February or March 2012 if there is enough interest.

Perhaps a Saturday afternoon. Flexible with dates really depending on when interested people might be free.

She is also thinking next year because we are going into the silly season/holiday time.

So if you would like to register your interest and be part of this meet up, please contact Arienne hello [at] lifeiscrafted [dot] com



[3] Photo: © Philip Morton

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-m5s9Eo1-w0A/UKFGzntIt0I/AAAAAAAAOCE/6x4RCQ0dp3g/s1600/sydney2.jpeg>

2. <http://lifeiscrafted.com/>

3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-ISM9n1S_ow4/UKFGxD4_pDI/AAAAAAAAOB8/F9M6B7ncp0Y/s1600/Sydney1.jpeg

mlblog (2012-11-21 00:32:31)

If only it was in Melbourne :(

Arienne - Savvy Sassy She (2012-11-21 02:20:31)

Thanks Steve! I don't know about the 'fame' part :)

I'm excited to meet some Filofax like minds face-to-face in Sydney! Mblog - can you organise a business trip to coincide?? ;)

Get in touch and we can see what we can coordinate. Go Philofaxers!

skybluepinkish (2012-11-21 06:48:29)

Dear Husband, that large debit from our current account. Yes it was me, sorry, needed to get a ticket to go to another one of those online meet ups.... Some how I think he might veto this one! But I am in Australia for several weeks in Feb 2014 so a good list of stationery stores would be lovely. I have plenty of time to plan!!

Ally Yu (2012-11-21 18:32:08)

You guys can go to Peters of Kensington ,they have quite a large range Filofax and other brand agenda in store. And they also have a nice Cafe inside as we'll

Stockist Under the Spotlight - Write at Home (2012-11-22 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Today I would like to introduce you to Margaret from 'Write at Home' they are a new Filofax stockist based in Scotland, but they have a growing [2]website and Margaret and her husband, David, are both keen users of Filofax personal organisers.

When did you start Write at Home?

Write at Home was started in 2010, it grew from my childhood love of stationery. I originally started by selling the Organised Mum range and a beautiful range of journals that are handmade in Nepal from lokta paper.

My range of stationery has increased steadily ever since, as I discovered that there was no-one selling stationery independently in this area (Tayside, Scotland) David (my husband) joined me this year and is still a work in progress re stationery addiction!

I initially sold at small local events but have now progressed to larger events such as Living North in Newcastle and Country Living in Glasgow and Harrogate.

How long have you personally been a Filofax user?

I was given my first Filofax in the mid 80's which was a black personal (no idea of the make!) but got out of the habit and rediscovered my love of them this year when I came across a Kendal A5 in Staples but was escorted from the premises by David before I could get my credit card out!! Unbeknown to David, I then started to search the internet on a regular basis until I found my Kendal and then my obsession started!!

David is now the proud owner of a vintage Richmond. His interest in using paper began a couple of years

ago at university where he was a mature student. He found it easier to organise his coursework on paper than it was on the various online organisers, thus bewildering his fellow students!! When I presented him with the Richmond it proved to be a fait accompli!!!! His Richmond is now his constant companion (apart from me!)

What do you use Filofax for?

I have 2 separate Filofaxes, my beloved Kendal and a red personal classic. My Kendal is my main organiser, for both business and personal use and my Classic is used solely for all things related to my work as a SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) Caseworker.

Which are your most popular products?



[3]

Would you believe it is a red quill!!! This has proved to be a very popular gift particularly to young people (gosh that makes me sound old!!)

Our other best sellers include our own Catriona Mary range of notebooks and the Organised Mum range.



[4]

What does the future hold for Write at Home?

We have just started to stock Filofax and are working on developing our own range of diaries and notebooks. David is constantly surprised at how many stationery aficionados there are out there but this is no surprise to me whatsoever. We are permanently adding to our range on-line and hope to be stocking Moleskine, amongst others, before too long.

Thank you Margaret for that insight and I'm sure there will be plenty of our readers heading over to your website to take a look at your stock at [5]<http://writeathome.co.uk>

1. <http://philofaxy.com/writehome.jpg>
2. <http://writeathome.co.uk/>
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-sEG4mj_1TpU/UKE77IVoKgI/AAAAAAAAOAY/7UpQSQanclA/s1600/Red+quill.jpg
4. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-5Rnrjs6Em1E/UKE76XeP4xI/AAAAAAAAOAU/LDzXeN91X2k/s1600/Catriona+Mary+collection.jpg>
5. <http://writeathome.co.uk/>

Neil (2012-11-22 10:45:31)

It's tough to be in business at the moment, so good luck with your new Filofax range.

Just a quick thought though - have you considered custom fill, or indeed empty binders? It's certainly something you could offer when the larger sellers either can't or won't.

If a customer can come to you and ask for an A5 Cuban, with plain blue paper, no address sheets, two sets of A-Z dividers and a day per page diary, and you're the only retailer in the country that can meet their requirements, who're they gonna call?

Just mix and match, and use Ebay to dispose of any surplus sheets that build up over time.

Unknown (2012-11-26 04:23:50)

Sorry for the late response Neil but I have been away at a large Christmas event. What a fantastic idea and yes that is a service that we will be offering!

Thank you Steve for featuring us and thank you everyone for popping over to check out the website, it is really appreciated xx

Free For All Friday No 210 (2012-11-23 00:00) - Steve Morton

A question for you today... What sort of reaction do you generally get from people when they see you using a Filofax organiser? Is it surprise or do they ask why are you using it, or what?

But as it's a Friday you are of course free to discuss anything Filofax (or ring bound planner) related.

Paul B (2012-11-23 00:25:44)

This comment has been removed by a blog administrator.

Paul B (2012-11-23 00:26:23)

For UK readers, I received a code for 20 % of all organisers until 24 Nicember. Use the following code for the online checkout:

20XMAS

Steve Morton (2012-11-23 02:49:50)

Ends 24th November, just to be clear!

Steve

Anita (2012-11-23 03:15:33)

I think the main reaction I get is surprise, followed by questions like, "Why don't you use a smart phone??" However, quite a few people do sound a bit more interested once I talk about it a bit more. And one of my friends is now considering one after popping into City Organiser with me earlier this year!

Paul B (2012-11-23 04:04:18)

Thanks Steve. Never easy, commenting with the iPhone!

natalie (2012-11-23 04:43:46)

20 % from which shop please?

Suus S (2012-11-23 04:45:44)

Funny question. I just told my colleague about the Filofax community and she look at me with amazement. Is there a Filofax community? Are you insane??? Or just a nerd?? Same reaction I got from my boyfriend, together with a head shaking of amazement and disbelief!

I had to laugh. Most of people I know use an iPhone for their planning. I don't have an iPhone (and not going to buy one). When I talk about my Emma (Personal Malden), they are very interested, but then, go one with their electronic gadgets. Most of them think that paper is too much work and no good overview. I think that with paper you have a better overview of things and also the battery never dies!

But I have a question for you guys: I am definitely a paper lover. I love my Emma and soon Emma is going to get company from Catharina (a Finsbury Antique Rose). I want to use Catharina as a diary and want to integrate my Moleskin diary to her. The integration is not going to be: cutting open the Moleskin and punching it. I want to maybe use the back pocket and slight the Moleskin back cover in it. Does anyone uses bought the Filofax and the Moleskin this way?? I have been looking on the internet, but could not find anything like I want to do.

Laurie (2012-11-23 04:57:00)

Suus you can see how Nancy uses a Moleskine Cahier notebook in the back of her personal Filofax as a daily planner in her guest post on my blog here:

<http://www.plannerisms.com/2011/02/nancys-filofax-moleskine-cahier.html>

Suus S (2012-11-23 05:15:42)

Thanks Laurie. I was looking for something like that. So it is possible. Yessss!

Suus S (2012-11-23 06:12:46)

natalie, it is for filofax.co.uk

Mandy Robinson (2012-11-23 06:17:10)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Mandy Robinson (2012-11-23 06:19:31)

If you are a Nectar card holder and go through their e-shops you can earn Nectar points too!

LM (2012-11-23 07:04:06)

When I get my Malden out and then my Windows phone people look a bit bewildered - why would I need both? But I love pen and paper and use the phone for alarms and reminders (Filofaxes don't beep) and the Malden for notes, lists, forward planning etc. Best of both worlds!

By the way, does anyone know where I can get a Compact / Zipped Malden Pocket, preferably in purple? Did they just appear and then disappear again? I think it would make the perfect travelling companion.

Suus S (2012-11-23 08:01:08)

You can get the Filofax Malden Compact Zipped on: www.filofax.de. This is the German site

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-11-23 08:06:02)

Hello all. I have two questions. I currently have the PennyBridge iPad case which I like but I'm disappointed with the back of the included filofax. It's just a piece of black plastic. Does the purple Malden iPad filofax had the same black plastic back? Does anyone have both the PennyBridge/Malden and the Flex iPad cover. I know the Flex iPad cover doesn't have a

Filofax but it appears to be a more multi-function cover. Any suggestions please?

Second question; I love my A5 size Filofaxes. Could anyone recommend a replacement A5 lined pad. I'm currently using a Pukka Pad Jotta which is micro-perforated but needs punching to fit my A5's. The Pukka Pad is 80 gsm and fountain pen friendly and I would like something similar.

Many thanks

David Popely (2012-11-23 08:10:53)

I don't usually get any reaction at all. I consider it a straight forward business decision to use a Filofax - after all, it will never run out of battery, will never delete/duplicate/corrupt my data, and access is quicker and easier than any smartphone I've ever encountered.

I do not believe anyone can use a smartphone 'for planning' - the screen size and lack of ability to toggle between screens would ensure this - I believe that when people say they are 'planning' on a smartphone, what they really are doing is to *record* their commitments after they have committed to them, rather than taking an overview. Trying to get an overview on a smartphone, using multiple diary perspectives and referring to multiple task lists, would be a tall order, would it not? We need to distinguish between planning and merely recording here.

I did, however, get told by the young man in Waterstones a couple of Sundays ago that he had never seen anything as organised (in terms of plastic cards) as my Filofax setup. No rummaging through pockets for me! :) I must go back and ask him if he's got a Filofax yet.....

Cecilia Tudo (2012-11-23 08:34:39)

I use this notebook <http://www.amazon.co.uk/Oxford-International-ActiveBook-integral-N00-1412/dp/B000O-1H2KG/>

It's not a pad, but spiral bound. It has perforations and lots of holes which fit the FF and also other systems I guess.

I got mine from the local Staples.

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-11-23 08:37:41)

Brilliant, thank you Cecilia. Exactly what I was looking for.

Caroline Larsson (2012-11-23 08:40:33)

Hi!

I don't own any of the Filofaxes you mentioned but just this week I saw the Malden iPad Filofax in a store and had to check it out. I can confirm that the backside of the planner is a black plastic sheet of some sort. It is such a shame since I really liked the front of it, very minimalistic and stylishly plain. It was the Ochre one but I am sure the purple is made the same way.

Lynne Dove (2012-11-23 08:49:27)

LOVE the colour of the new aqua Malden iPad sleeve. Would be fab as an organiser colour.

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-11-23 09:02:54)

Thank you Caroline but Oh boo hiss to Filofax. We finally get a slimline A5 and they spoil the back - sigh. I understand the need for the back to be stiff to enable it to slide into the holder but black plastic!

LM (2012-11-23 10:08:27)

Thanks, Suus! I'll have a look now!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-11-23 10:15:47)

David, same here. Not a lot of response except them wondering why I don't use electronic planning.

Another negative to using the iPhone or any other phone is that it doesn't stay on. I need my list on the counter and visible at all times. An iPhone just doesn't work that way. And I'm constantly writing things down - it's much easier to just grab a pen and paper rather than turning on the phone and using the keyboard. Nothing beats paper for me.

That being said, I do have some folks around me who see my paper planner and think I'm a nerd. I can live with that. I feel pretty organized and I know I have to have the paper planner to do it. I've played around with electronic planning - just to see if it's better - and for me, it isn't.

I don't see a lot of people with paper planners, though. Most use their iPhone or iPad.

David Popely (2012-11-23 10:19:17)

....all of which makes me wonder just how much planning, in the traditional sense, is going on.....if any. Given that real, proactive planning with a system for doing it (whichever system may be chosen) is virtually if not absolutely impossible using electronica. Good news for those of us who reject the idea that new is always better (or even faster). It's not easy to differentiate any more....

Kevin Moore (2012-11-23 10:22:56)

Had a lot of smartphones when they first came out, kept getting newer and newer ones and they were always some sort of compromise, lousy phone, lousy battery, lousy reception. Ever try to look up a number while you are on the phone? Or check your calendar? So one day after riding the subway in NYC and seeing everyone's head buried in their smartphone oblivious to the world around I decided that I was not to be one of those people. Sold my droid 3 got a old school Razr and a new filofax. Simple

David Popely (2012-11-23 10:23:08)

...also, what would I do with all my blue medium BIC biros? :) Surely the best writing implement ever invented ;)

natalie (2012-11-23 10:28:22)

I think you are right.

There are various functions.

To Do tick lists.

Recording future appointments.

Planning.

An electronic organiser will easily cope with the first two, and will bleep helpfully to remind you of things (necessary if you don't use it as an overview).

But planning is a bigger process, it's about exploration, pros and cons, decision making, researching, changing direction. I don't think these things are easily done on a screen. The technology is fabulous for the research phase, but when it comes to the rest of it, paper wins, IMHO.

natalie (2012-11-23 10:42:04)

I like my iPhone (a second hand 4).

But I don't use the apps much.

I use it as a camera (fits in the back pocket of my pocket Makden) and for video.

I have a radio app.

A Pantone app (take a photo and it will match the pantones to the photo - very nifty for a textile person like me).

Calculator.

Maps.

Flashlight (incredibly handy, actually).

Timer for baking.

Mobile blogging.

Taking card payments at craft shows with Paypal and iZettle.

Check in at airports.

In short, it serves lost of functions which work well for me, but planning isn't one of them, and nor is keeping a diary/calendar.

Babs (2012-11-23 11:24:46)

Does anyone use customised information sheets for the front of their Filofax? If so, what information do you have on it and what designs do you use? I'm looking for some ideas :)

Diliana Imandieva (2012-11-23 11:28:56)

I had simillar question last week - I would like to purchase the iPad Filofax organiser but I can't see wich iPad it fit as I have the New one? Would anyone knows?

Cheryl (2012-11-23 11:54:07)

I find it interesting that Filofax UK has 20 % off everything and yet on the Filofax US site they do not. I was all set for some online Black Friday Filofax shopping. I can't believe Filofax US isn't having the same offer as this is the biggest shopping day of the year. (They do have 50 % off Aston's, Chameleon's and Domino's but I prefer the 20 % off everything deal). I will just wait patiently for some news about my Personal Grey Malden and save my \$ \$ in the meantime. Happy weekend everybody!

Tim (2012-11-23 12:13:20)

They're all designed for iPad 2 and third generation (iPad 3). Definitely not iPad 1 due to thickness (13mm v 8.6mm/9.4mm in the later models). Not sure about "New iPad" (iPad 4). Should be fine as it's the same size. Just check holes for leads, buttons and camera lens.

Of course mini iPad is now out, just as Filofax are (finally) launching their 2010/2011 iPad covers!

Anita (2012-11-23 12:54:36)

@ LM: There's also a pocket zipped Malden for sale on the Adspot page currently :)

M Ng (2012-11-23 12:54:43)

Mostly, people chuckle to themselves when they see I use a Filofax. I think the usual attitude is that I'm stubbornly clinging to old ways ("she's a Luddite") or I'm choosing to be quirky for aesthetic reasons ("she's retro"). Others chalk it up to eccentricity or affectation ("she's arty-farty"). Now that my partner works exclusively with tech start-ups, I get amused awe more often; these are the men and women making bleeding edge technology after all. (On the other hand, many of these start-ups like to track their projects/"sprints" on whiteboards.)

Although I'm devoted to pen and paper for planning, I know that people can plan electronically, too – but not using only their small carry-around devices. My partner uses Google calendar, Excel, and Word to plan, track to-dos and deadlines, create workflows and schedules, &c. His smartphone is an extension of his computer, insofar as it enables him to get a glance at all of these different documents and apps on-the-go. Using the various programs and apps, for him, is probably similar to using various Filofax forms.

When I worked at an environmental engineering firm, the engineers and architects managed (complex and constantly-shifting) project workflows using Outlook and Excel; I tracked the thousands of documents, drawings, and samples under review using Access. Any given engineer or architect wasn't especially organized and forward-looking, but the managers and schedulers used these electronic tools well enough to, you know, prevent massive wastewater disasters in the NY metropolitan area.

So fear not the smartphone users!, they may very well be excellent planners and organizers (or rely on others that are doing the serious work at their computers).

Cheryl (2012-11-23 13:12:54)

The Woman's Success Planner will be 30 % off on Cyber Monday (11-26). Use coupon code CYBERMON12.

Terri (2012-11-23 13:21:28)

This comment has been removed by the author.

natalie (2012-11-23 13:26:01)

30 % on the planners too, not just binders?

I have an order to place...

Terri (2012-11-23 14:36:13)

Is there any way at all to fix the rings? My pocket Malden zip has been working great as a wallet, but the bottom rings no longer align. City Organiser has offered to refund the cost as my particular model won't be available until 2013. I love this Malden and hope someone can offer a suggestion for repair!

Delete

LM (2012-11-23 16:44:21)

@Anita: Yes, I have seen it and sent a message but not heard anything back so I assumed it was already sold? Maybe not, I'll see what happens. Buying a new one from Germany is a bit expensive. Thanks for pointing it out though!

MTMTE (2012-11-23 20:22:23)

I have a question regarding the A5 Flex...has anyone tried using it as a book-cover for your novel? What size books does it generally take? I toss my books into my bag and they become woefully battered very quickly (and I'm not yet convinced of a kindle obviously). Any thoughts/experiences would be much appreciated. ^ _ ^

Cheryl (2012-11-23 20:25:19)

Their facebook page said 'save 30 % on your order' so I am assuming its anything you order. I've been wanting to try out the ring planner but not willing to repunch the holes to fit the A5.

Tim (2012-11-24 05:31:04)

I've just tried and it works fine - especially without the pen holders that (because they are A5) would stop you using it for thicker books. It might look a bit unsightly with a Tolstoy novel but for a standard size book up to A5 size just tuck the rear cover of your paperback into the rear slot of the Flex. You can still use the other slots for other things.

natalie (2012-11-24 05:56:57)

Ling kindly offered me an Oct-Dec planner which arrived yesterday.

It's the spiral bound version which I think is better actually, everything is in a logical order and kept together. I have a zipped A5 FF so I don't need to keep it in rings, I will just pop it inside and zip up.

I would not go to the bother of repunching and taping and all that fuss., I think it old spil a perfectly good product.

MTMTE (2012-11-24 14:27:55)

Thanks for giving this a go. Yes, I'd thought the thicker books might not look so good, but at least now I feel a bit more comfortable ordering a Flex to try it out :)

Laurie (2012-11-25 12:59:26)

Can anyone confirm if a Kindle fits in the back pocket of an A5 Malden? Thanks in advance for any info!

Steve Morton (2012-11-25 13:08:01)

Yes it does... <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/05/mixing-paper-and-digital-devices.html>

Laurie (2012-11-25 14:02:34)

Awesome, thanks Steve! (By the way, not for me!)

Kristy Sherrod (2012-11-25 17:06:40)

People always want to see my filofax and touch it. My boss is obsessed with my Malden. I just switched to my regency so we'll see what she thinks of it. :)

And a random question to my fellow bloggers: I currently have a book blog called Coffee & Literature (coffeandliterature.com) and was thinking of turning it into a book, writing, & filofax blog. I'm debating between that and just doing a separate blog for Filofaxes and such. What is your opinion on either? Also any ideas fir a name if I start a new blog?

Steve Morton (2012-11-25 17:11:03)

Hi Kristy

You might find my own blog post of interest:

<http://steve-morton.com/2012/05/15/filofax-blogging-tips/>

Be sure to let me know about your new blog if you go for a separate one.

Regards

Steve

Kristy Sherrod (2012-11-25 18:14:14)

Thanks, Steve! I'll keep you posted!

Zmalik (2012-11-27 00:23:07)

simple and to the point...your style inspires me...how can i write about [1]Plastic cards in such impressive way...

1. http://www.plasticcardmonster.com/pvc_add_ons.php

Web Finds - 24th November 2012 (2012-11-24 00:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from around the internet:

1. [1]Go Big or Go Home - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
2. [2]Doing a Week In Review - Life is Crafted
3. [3]Punching and cutting, getting ready for new arrivals - I love my stationery
4. [4]Filofax Right Pen Loop - It's Just Hazel
5. [5]Setup of my Filofax Chameleon A5 @ November 2012 - Life is Crafted
6. [6]Filofax Inserts I Use The Most - Filofit
7. [7]My Filofax Rotation System; Regency, Malden & Chameleon - My Filo World
8. [8]Love Your Filofax? Love Your Organizer? In Sydney? - Life is Crafted
9. [9]Filofax sigh, exam and the start of a new course - Belzira's Corner
10. [10]My first filoFAX - Smart Sparkles
11. [11]Filofax - Personalised front page - Monica Luis
12. [12]Filofax - Change is inevitable
13. [13]Confessions of a stationery nerd - Joanne the Coach
14. [14]A Peek at Percy the Personal Portland - Filofaximile
15. [15]Job seeking using a Filofax? - Paper Lovestory
16. [16]How to Retrieve Information in Your Planner Quickly & Easily - Homemakers Daily
17. [17]Storage of past diaries/pages - Honey & Filofaxes
18. [18]Designer deliberations - Filofaximile
19. [19]Filofax Christmas list - Mamma StressfilofaxATA
20. [20]Royal Blue Ascot - Cloudberry Musings
21. [21]Planner fantasies - Plannerisms
22. [22]Weirdo Wednesday's late night shuffle - Filofaximile

23. [23]A Thanksgiving Giveaway for my Filofax Pals... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
24. [24]Falling back in Love with Filofax.....Part 2....The Declaration - Imysworld
25. [25]Filofax update; Chameleon Personal in Raspberry Tour - My Filo World
26. [26]That Thing Thursday #2 - My Once Upon the Moon
27. [27]What's purple, leather and tickles my fancy? - Blundermum
28. [28]Soundtrack To My Life - Steve - Typecast
29. [29]Filofax Collection of the Week - Jana - Imysworld
30. [30]looking back at journal and diary pages - Paper Lovestory
31. [31]The Mystery Binder of Batiste - Filofaximile
32. [32]Do it Yourself! - Verwendet euer eigenes Filofax - Chaotic Perfectionist
33. [33]Where I lose a little love for my Filofax - Rosie Scribble
34. [34]Ready to offer CUTE Month On Two Pages! - Filofax Love

Here are the latest Filofax videos from around the internet:

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/RS2dSO0cN1U?rel=0>

IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/sAZrD5LeZaQ?rel=0>

IFRAME: [37]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Fno1RbU7JCg?rel=0>

IFRAME: [38]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/oq4DzzRxjLQ?rel=0>

IFRAME: [39]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/V7vPrmXoNQA?rel=0>

IFRAME: [40]http://www.youtube.com/embed/L_Nuq_1byyw?rel=0

Enjoy

1. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/11/20/go-big-or-go-home/>
2. <http://lifeiscrafted.com/2012/11/19/doing-a-week-in-review/>
3. <http://ilovemystationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/punching-and-cutting-getting-ready-for.html>
4. <http://itsjusthazel.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/filofax-right-pen-loop.html>
5. <http://lifeiscrafted.com/2012/11/21/setup-of-my-filofax-chameleon-a5-november-2012/>
6. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/11/20/filofax-inserts-i-use-the-most/>
7. <http://myfiloworld.com/my-filofax-rotation-system/>
8. <http://lifeiscrafted.com/2012/11/21/love-your-filofax-love-your-organizer-in-sydney/>
9. <http://belzira.blogspot.com/2012/11/filofax-sigh-exam-and-start-of-new.html>
10. <http://thehappylifeofsmartsparkles.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/my-first-filofax.html>
11. <http://mluisblog.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/filofax-personalised-front-page.html>
12. <http://inevitablechange.wordpress.com/2012/11/20/filofax/>
13. http://joannemallon.typepad.com/joanne_the_coach/2012/11/confessions-of-a-stationery-nerd.html
14. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.com/2012/11/a-peek-at-percy-personal-portland.html>
15. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/job-seeking-using-filofax.html>
16. <http://homemakersdaily.com/how-to-retrieve-information-in-your-planner-quickly-easily/>
17. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/storage-of-past-diariespages.html>
18. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.com/2012/11/designer-deliberations.html>
19. <http://mammastressataxd.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/filofax-christmas-list.html>
20. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/royal-blue-ascot.html>
21. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/planner-fantasies.html>

22. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.com/2012/11/weirdo-wednesdays-late-night-shuffle.html>
23. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/a-thanksgiving-giveaway-for-my-filofax.html>
24. <http://imysworld.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/falling-back-in-love-with-filofaxpart.html>
25. <http://myfiloworld.com/filofax-update-chameleon-personal-in-raspberry-tour/>
26. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/that-thing-thursday-2.html>
27. <http://blundermum.com/2012/whats-purple-leather-and-tickles-my-fancy/>
28. <http://www.iamtypecast.com/2012/11/soundtrack-to-my-life-steve.html>
29. <http://imysworld.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/filofax-collection-of-week-jana.html>
30. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/looking-back-at-journal-and-diary-pages.html>
31. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.com/2012/11/the-mystery-binder-of-batiste.html>
32. <http://elfenfish.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/do-it-yourself-verwendet-euer-eigenes.html>
33. <http://www.rosiescribble.co.uk/filofax/>
34. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/11/24/ready-to-offer-cute-month-on-two-pages/>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/RS2dS00cN1U?rel=0>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/sAZrD5LeZaQ?rel=0>
37. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Fno1RbU7JcG?rel=0>
38. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/oq4DzzRxjLQ?rel=0>
39. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/V7vPrmXoNQA?rel=0>
40. http://www.youtube.com/embed/L_Nuq_1byyw?rel=0

Ninalotta the CP (2012-11-24 05:30:47)

"Good Morning" everyone and a Thank you to Philofaxy for having me in your Webfinds. I´m always like "iiiiihihihih" when I spot my name in your List.

Thank you ;)

(And as I´m always "the One with the Computer Problems, my Laptop is nearly passing away, with all the embedded Videos in the Post. ;))

Rose Cocoon (2012-11-24 05:47:29)

Thank you so much for adding my video in your webfinds !

I´m such a big fan of this blog even though i can´t speak english so well.

A super nice day to everyone :)

Rose Cocoon

Emma Hancock (2012-11-24 09:25:22)

Thank you so much for featuring my little blog! I dpnt think my hit counter quite knows what to do with its self.

I´ll try extra hard next week to make more.content worthy of your list.

Emma

Filofaximile

A Date For Your Filofax - 2 December 2012 (2012-11-25 00:00) - Steve Morton

New York

Sao Paulo

London

Paris

We are going to run another conference round-table voice chat using Skype, this is slightly later in the month because I wanted to avoid the weekend when the clocks change in the US!

I´m sure we are gradually getting to know each other´s voices, but I will make a point of going ´around

the table' to get everyone to introduce themselves this time.

So...When, Where, What, Who and How?

When? - **Sunday 2 December** 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. Come and listen if you don't want to chat.

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 2 December 2012**.

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

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

Steve Morton (2012-11-25 15:11:13)

Please note that this is an hour earlier than previous ones, it's a friendlier hour for our friends in the eastern time zones!

Kristy Sherrod (2012-11-25 16:45:36)

:(I would love to participate but it'll be 9 am for me and I'll be at church. :(maybe next time.

Claudia Volkman (2012-11-26 06:11:45)

Hi Steve! I tried searching for Philofaxy on Skype and nothing came up -

Steve Morton (2012-11-29 16:26:46)

Can you try again please. We are definitely on the list as I've just approved a couple of contact requests this evening

Smart Sparkles (2012-12-02 02:03:01)

Hi, Steve, I hope that next time, there will be also a clock displaying GMT+8 for our timezone!

Philofaxy London Meet Up - November 2012 (2012-11-26 00:00) - Steve Morton

Well it is two years since we started our meet up's in London. This was the 7th meet up in London, they have all tended to follow a similar formula, different people but the same sort of friendly exchanges.

The main difference with this one was the weather... it rained and it rained and it rained... non-stop! We have been fortunate on all our previous London meet ups in that we have had dry weather. Just good

luck really.

I went up on the train from Kent to London, we have been staying on a farm in Kent this last week, once again as luck would have it for me this week... there were delays on the trains, but I was still at the venue about an hour before the place even opened!

So we all met up at Vapiano near to Tate Modern and enjoyed a great meal and lots of chatting and sharing our Filofax organisers around the table. There was just the 9 of us this time, but quite a few new people, and a few people that had been before, but it was great to see everyone.

During lunch there was a lot of talk about things people wanted to look at and possibly buy at City Organiser. I have learnt from my previous mistakes, I always make a list in my Filofax to ensure I don't forget to look at something or to buy something... with so many things to look at the shop it is easy to forget something critical. In my case postage can become quite expensive on small value mail order purchases.

We made our way to [1]City Organiser after lunch, taking the shortest route with our umbrellas and raincoats! It was great to see Bernard and Aline at the shop. As usual we wandered in and all the chatter stopped..... eyes went like saucers and people started looking at all the different things in the shop. We managed to stay out of the stock room this time, although there was still a fair bit of comparisons going on by looking at the total stock of purple Maldens.

We did a few group photos indoors because it was still raining... and it was dark outside! We all made our home, happy but a little damp!

If you missed the meet up... then don't forget the current promo code for [2]City Organiser, details are as follows:

With Christmas on the horizon, we thought we would get everyone in the Christmas mood by sending a festive 10 % discount voucher to all our loyal customers to use when spending over £30. As you know, our everyday prices are already reduced from most manufacturers rrrps so this is a chance to save something worthwhile on your Christmas spending, *The code expires on Monday Dec 4th and can be applied to all our products except Montblanc.

To redeem the discount simply use the code xmas during the checkout process.

And of course some photos.....



[3]



[4]



[5]



[6]



[7]



[8]



[9]



[10]



[11]



[12]

Keji, Howard, Jene, Cecilia, Preethi

L-R Judith with Damaris, Christa,



[13] L-R Steve, Judith with Damaris, Christa, Keji, Howard, Jene, Cecilia

I hope everyone enjoyed the day as much as I did, I can now look forward to planning the next one some time in spring 2013. Thank you to everyone who came along today, and also a big thank you to City Organiser for their help and assistance and their support for our group this year.

1. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
2. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-b5xctVyEK00/ULFDDo-kV_I/AAAAAAAAOK0/bxuP985NLaU/s1600/IMG_3253.JPG
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-NqP6NbhuFxs/ULFDUKanH0I/AAAAAAAAOK8/ksZ3wdwFs6E/s1600/IMG_3254.JPG
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-yn2uSaQ51DY/ULFDinB5D6I/AAAAAAAAOLE/b95Cpu1V8Z8/s1600/IMG_3255.JPG
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-Zp6SHPzeHEI/ULFDxAJbjeI/AAAAAAAAOLM/GpQbo8NQSCs/s1600/IMG_3256.JPG
7. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-a0-VmR-z2LY/ULFEANp75WI/AAAAAAAAOLU/xBUTGGUxq2c/s1600/IMG_3258.JPG
8. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-ciwBOJFGKAE/ULFENM2_FkI/AAAAAAAAOLg/LAbm1bhcSfU/s1600/IMG_3259.JPG
9. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-YXF1Fg90LSk/ULFEaqjpBhI/AAAAAAAAOLo/PEOYDKo3ixE/s1600/IMG_3261.JPG
10. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-AhfbgKnzpIQ/ULFEsKSN0qI/AAAAAAAAOLw/HBfKEWp-JBQ/s1600/IMG_3262.JPG
11. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-g_yA8rjQM3k/ULFE77wZvvI/AAAAAAAAOL4/T1P-A2xbPEI/s1600/IMG_3263.JPG
12. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Mmd6G-RFync/ULFFBaNb9dI/AAAAAAAAOMA/wImvWsRjm0c/s1600/IMG_3267.JPG
13. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-VjgwmV76G1M/ULFFHSgp_-I/AAAAAAAAOMI/g5LGStxBw0I/s1600/IMG_3269.JPG

caribbean princess (2012-11-26 02:57:45)

Looked like you all had a great time! I wish I could have been there too :-(the last week for me was not at all what I expected. Will email you Steve.

Laurie (2012-11-26 03:19:36)

Looks like you all had a great time and I wish I could have been there!
But what I want to know is: what was purchased?!?! ;D

Alison Reeves (2012-11-26 04:02:33)

Yes I'm with Laurie - I want purchase details!!! Hope you all had a great time and got back safely.

Steve Morton (2012-11-26 04:15:31)

I need to pay attention more! I think a purple Malden was definitely bought, a Finsbury A5 was seriously being looked at.

I collected a Holborn Compact which had been bought for me as a gift.... look out for a future post comparing the Holborn Compact with my Malden Compact Zip, so a zip non-zip comparison.

I also bought some more personal plain cotton cream paper, and a pocket insert (just incase I downsize sometime in the year)

Alison Reeves (2012-11-26 07:05:38)

Steve - you have no idea how much pleasure we get from surrogate purchasing!

Jotje (2012-11-26 07:35:48)

I was the one browsing the A5 Finsbury's. Really liked the new Blue, so vibrant! Unfortunately, the rings were wonky in ALL A5 Finsbury's. I later checked some at St. Lewis, Harrods, WHSmith and Ryan. ALL HAD GAPS! I must say, I am truly shocked! My first ever Filofax, an A5 pink Finsbury, which has endured heavy use and stuffing, still has perfectly aligned rings ...

David Popely (2012-11-26 10:27:08)

My black A5 Finsbury has perfectly aligned rings.....I've never had a problem with it.

michele (2012-11-27 10:43:01)

Looks like you all had a great time! If only it wasn't Thanksgiving here in the states I might have flown over. My West Yorkshire bred boyfriend keeps saying I should go to a London meet up!

Cecilia Tudo (2012-11-27 19:38:21)

I got a personal Aston in brown (chocolate). It's going to contain my gtd project lists and info.

Free For All Tuesday No. 95 (2012-11-27 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have. So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypH0Yfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

PaperAddict (2012-11-27 00:20:07)

How was the meeting Steve?

Suzee Neal (2012-11-27 00:47:26)

Hi :) I am interested in a compact size FF and wanted to know if anyone uses this for a checkbook? I've only read the details of a Compact Finsbury and it has the full length pocket in back, will it hold a checkbook? Thank you :)

MTMTE (2012-11-27 02:15:02)

I'm not sure about the length of chequebooks, however I can tell you that as with any Finsbury zipped pocket it's very thin and wouldn't hold too much bulk at all.

Anthannon (2012-11-27 03:30:40)

I also have a compact question. Do any of the compacts have a pocket to hold a note pad at the back. I used to find it very useful in my personal size. My perfect filo would be reasonably slim, purple and hold a note pad - any ideas. Don't mind A5 or personal size. Not flex though, I want the rings! Any help appreciated.

David Popely (2012-11-27 04:57:00)

Steve's in transit back to France today/tomorrow, so I don't know if he will reply, but I gather from an off-list email that it was a very positive meeting and good contacts were made.

Suzee Neal (2012-11-27 06:32:02)

Thank you... I wonder if a Slimline would work as well? Oh I wish I could get my hands on some lol I am in the States and where I live nobody even knows what a FF is!

Dave Parente (2012-11-27 07:07:44)

Nothing to get one excited again like pickup up a new Personal Wine Holborn. Beautiful and perfect for my needs. I now have an A5 Malden in ochre, a personal Malden in Ochre, and a personal Malden in black that I am looking to move

Lily (2012-11-27 09:30:10)

I could compare the length of my cheque book to FF personal paper if you want - are US and UK chequebooks the same size?

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-11-27 09:58:08)

You could put a checkbook at the back of a Malden Personal. I just did it. It actually fit really well. I tried putting it in the front but it wasn't as efficient there. I don't have a compact so I can't help with that.

Paul Taylor (2012-11-27 09:59:28)

I don't know if they're still available, but at one time FF made a chequebook holder. It was a clear plastic item with a slot to thread the back of the chequebook through, and six rings punched along one side so you didn't have to take up a pocket. It would fit UK standard size chequebooks but the ones with stubs on the left (old style) were too long to sit completely within a personal size filofax and would overhang by about half an inch or so top and bottom of the binder. Newer style UK chequebooks (no stub, just a summary page to fill in at the front) fitted a treat.

I don't think I've written more than one cheque this year!

Steve Morton (2012-11-27 10:07:59)

Sorry I'm a bit on and off line today... The meeting went very well. Very pleased with the outcomes so far. I'm hoping to be able to give you a full report later this week or early next week. But this one meeting is just the start really, I'm sure it will lead to a much better relationship between Philofaxy (and its readers) and Filofax themselves.

Steve Morton (2012-11-27 10:10:29)

In France cheques are still used a lot! But likewise I've hardly used my UK cheque book in ages, one lasts me years. Not sure of the dimensions I will check and report back tomorrow when we get home.

J (2012-11-27 10:16:52)

You can still find the Filofax checkbook holder on Amazon- I used to use one but found it too bulky and it took up valuable ring space!

I barely use checks, but if you have to carry them I'd say just slot the book into a notepad slot or pocket. Or, only carry a few checks with you and slot them just about anywhere!

Anita (2012-11-27 10:32:58)

I agree as I thought it went very well & it feels like a positive start to better communication with Filofax. Thank you to Steve & Kate for the time they put in preparing for this meeting :)

It was also my first visit to Conduit Street & I thought the display in the store was amazing, with all the binders in their different sizes on show!

michele (2012-11-27 10:48:40)

Does the checkbook holder carry just the checks or does it allow for the ledger as well? I am making my Christmas list which of course is more Filofax than anything else.

XClaireX (2012-11-27 13:41:07)

Just thought I'd let you know I picked up an A5 Malden in vintage pink in it's box in tk maxx today for just £19.99!! And a flex for £7.99

PaperAddict (2012-11-27 14:10:27)

Oh that is wonderful. So happy to hear this. Well done Steve and to you David for getting the ball rolling and to everyone else that did their bit.

MTMTE (2012-11-27 15:58:56)

I have to agree - what used to be a whole-hearted Malden love-affair on my part has now died and I have come to believe that the Holborn is the perfect filofax currntly available (for me). I now have the A5, Personal & Compact in Wine (and no ring issues!!) LOVE the leather!

indigogarden (2012-11-27 19:43:01)

I'm looking at my slimline and I think that if I put the checkbook into one of the vertical slots in the back, it would hold the checkbook quite easily.

indigogarden (2012-11-27 19:44:44)

Is TK Maxx related to TJ Maxx here in the states? I might go over there tomorrow if this is the case.

Cheryl (2012-11-27 20:32:30)

I've also seen the check book holders at office supply stores (not sure if it was office max, office depot or staples) and it was by day timer or day runner. Franklin Covey used to make one as well and it would fit the personal size binder if they still make them.

Cheryl (2012-11-27 20:37:46)

I have looked at every TJ Maxx I encounter for Filofax and have never once seen any. I've also checked Marshall's and Home Goods. Occasionally I will see a personal size binder by another brand (rarely) at one of these stores. If anyone in the States happens to find a Filofax in one of the above mentioned stores please post! I am green with envy when someone from UK or Canada finds these on clearance at such great prices. Have never seen them in our 'sister' stores but sure wish I did!

EmmaNoey (2012-11-27 21:11:41)

I got one from Filofax for my personal Malden. It works fine with US checks. They can still be had from Filofax, but I thought I'd go ahead and get it while I could. Just in case.

indigogarden (2012-11-27 21:42:44)

What a bummer. I was looking forward to possibly seeing them in person on the shelf!

Alan Marshall (2012-11-27 22:39:10)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Alan Marshall (2012-11-27 22:40:08)

Has anyone seen this on ebay?

http://www.ebay.ca/itm/Superb-Luxurious-Black-Calf-Leather-Original-FILOFAX-Slim-Personal-Organiser-/121026988427?pt=UK_Purses_Wallets&hash=item1c2dc5498b

It looks like a personal with 11mm rings.

Butanben (2012-11-29 07:27:27)

Home Sense also have some great Filofax deals at the moment!!

J (2012-11-29 12:33:58)

Yeah, I've never seen a Filofax at TJ Maxx or Home Goods. Yet another reason why a move across the pond is more and more appealing...

Web Finds - 27 November 2012 (2012-11-27 12:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from around the internet.

1. [1]2013 Plannerisms Planners Are Here!! - Plannerisms
2. [2]More Filofax stuffLOTS OF PICS!!! - AppleHead Threads
3. [3]Magenta temptation - Filofaximile
4. [4]Filofaxiness - Stash Control - Filofax Style!!! - Marigolds' Loft
5. [5]Guest Post - Maria's Travelfax - Imysworld
6. [6]My favourite filofax divider - Anita Lim
7. [7]fleeting fancies - Paperplane Thinking
8. [8]Diary summary inserts for my on-the-go 'fax - Planning with Printed Portal
9. [9]Planner Grazing - The Storage Studio
10. [10]Duplex Filofax – the British Army version - Musings of Max
11. [11]Filofax Adventures Part. 2 - Behind my Purpley Life
12. [12]Day-Timer Coastlines Inside My Filofax - Kiwi Paper Addict
13. [13]Free Download: Diary Summary 2013 (in Purple) - Planning with Printed Portal
14. [14]Filofax Spot! - Imysworld
15. [15]my filofax week #32 - Paper Lovestory
16. [16]Filofax Update... - Katie Louise Halsall
17. [17]Rosa - Cloudberry Musings
18. [18]A bitter sweet farewell to my Filofax Topaz - Monica Luis
19. [19]Malden update and Franklin Covey DPP attempt #2 - Plannerisms
20. [20]Magpie Monday - Filofax 'Urban' mini - nyssapod
21. [21]Homemade Dividers - Lady Elizabeth's Life
22. [22]Rosa - Weight Loss Programme - Cloudberry Musings
23. [23]Stalker Mode - Lady Elizabeth's Life
24. [24]Festive feelings - Filofaximile
25. [25]Writing real estate in Kendal - I love my stationery

26. [26]using two filofax binders at the same time - Paper Lovestory
27. [27]Filofax College - How to make Dividers by Picture - Imysworld
28. [28]Neue Umfrage: Steht Filofax auf Eurem Wunschzettel... - Filomaniac
29. [29]Alternative Filofax Markers - Whimsicality
30. [30]My Filofax Broke :(- The Wonderful Life of Alice
31. [31]New inserts! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
32. [32]My Filofax Week 9 - Glossette
33. [33]How to: Tart up a Filofax with nail polish...! - Stephanie Pomfrett
34. [34]Finding a Pocket Rio on eBay - The Crazy Suburban Mom
35. [35]Filofax-Farben (2): Rot, Lila und Pink - Filomaniac
36. [36]First week back in a Filofax - Falling back in Love with Filofax - Imysworld
37. [37]Filofax advice for Beginners :) - The Life of The Perpetual Student
38. [38]Collins card holders - Filofaximile
39. [39]Filofax Mini Experiments #1 - Lime Tree
40. [40]Going Vintage part 2; Arrival of my new Personal Portland in Brown - My Filo World
41. [41]tips tuesday #3 - choosing your filofax tabs - Paperplane Thinking
42. [42]mini mini mini mini mini chameeeeeeeeeeeoouuuuu - and then she read
43. [43]On the second day of Christmas my true love gave to me... a Filofax iPad case - Inspect-a-Gadget
44. [44]Temperley London for Filofax 'The Affair' - Style Bistro

Please note I'm travelling today (Tuesday) and tomorrow so it's possible your post might not be in the list above. I will add them to Saturdays post once I get back home and back on-line again. And here are the latest Filofax videos:

IFRAME: [45]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/ATie64ukEfm?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [46]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/6tIX6dZf3i4?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [47]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Px3JmGZoEkg?rel=0>
 IFRAME: [48]http://www.youtube.com/embed/Olq_By61xYE?rel=0
 IFRAME: [49]http://www.youtube.com/embed/F_jL3gRiOmE?rel=0
 IFRAME: [50]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/BnIcE1ItcW8?rel=0>
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Enjoy

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Elizabeth González (2012-11-27 12:48:50)

So nice to see my hand and video in this blog (*w*) Just make my day with some other things :)

Anita (2012-11-28 05:20:59)
Thanks for including mine, Steve :)

A5 Boston Filofax (2012-11-28 00:00) - Laurie

Our cries for a slimmer A5 Filofax have been heard! Behold, the Boston A5!!



[1]

The A5 Boston has 20 mm rings, and most of Filofax's A5 binders have 30 mm rings so this one is significantly slimmer. It's also not as wide as some of the A5 binders. I could definitely carry this one in my bag with me everywhere! And, I can switch out the A5 pages with my Mother Ship A5 Finsbury that stays on my desk.

So here is the A5 Boston compared to my A5 Finsbury. Here you can see how much wider the Finsbury is:



[2]

Not a great photo, but you can kind of see how much bigger the Finsbury is (bottom) with its 30 mm rings as opposed to the Boston's 20 mm rings:



[3]

Below you can really see the size difference, Finsbury on top and Boston on bottom:



[4]

I tried to get a shot comparing the rings on the Finsbury (top) and Boston (bottom):



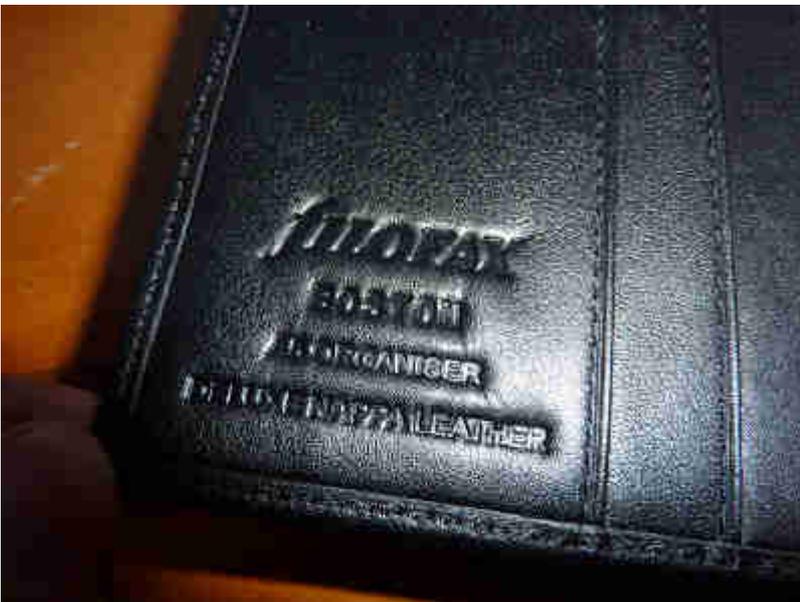
[5]



[6]

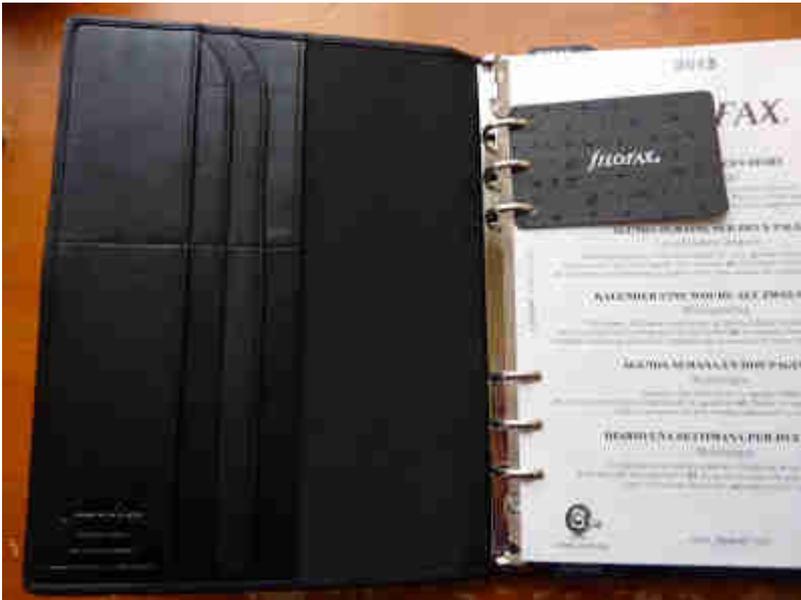
Anyway, you get the idea: the Boston A5 is significantly slimmer, narrower and less bulky than a Finsbury A5.

The Boston is made from soft Nappa leather.



[7]

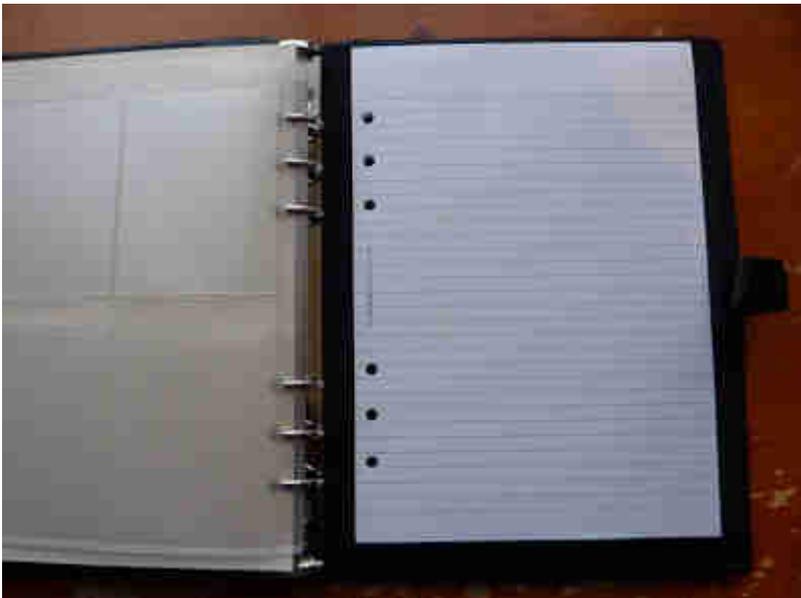
Here's a view of the inside cover. There is a full-length pocket, and several card pockets. The top pockets are smaller than the bottom ones so larger cards can fit in the bottom pockets.



[8]

I was surprised to find, at this price, that the inside where the rings touch is fabric, not leather. I'm assuming that is to reduce weight.

At the back of the binder is a notepad. I took it out to see how much slimmer and lighter the binder would be without it.



[9]

CHECK OUT THE BACK POCKET!!! That, my friends, is a wonderfully functional pocket for sticking in papers, tickets, and anything you want. Hooray!!



[10]

With its classic design, the Boston looks great. And its super-smooth leather feels great in your hands (which is very important to those of us who are tactile like I am).



[11]

The A5 Boston organizer is available in the US on [12]PensAndLeather.com and in the UK from [13]City-Organiser.co.uk. (I am not affiliated with either of these websites.)

Many huge enormous thanks to Filofax USA for sending me this binder as a sample to review. This is the A5 Filofax I've been searching for!!

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Lime Tree (2012-11-28 00:28:59)

SO NICE! We really needed a slim A5 alternative besides the Adelphi. Great review and comparison with the Finsbury!

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-11-28 00:45:31)

Thanks for the review Laurie. I'm really tempted to purchase one now, especially as I'm sure I've seen it in purple!

Jotje (2012-11-28 01:17:19)

I've been able to take a closer look at the Boston at CO. I wasn't impressed to be honest: the nylon(?) lining inside looked and felt cheap and tacky to me and the leather -though soft - is puffy (some sort of padding inside?), which is a shame on any slimline binder, as it adds unnecessary bulk.

Alison Reeves (2012-11-28 03:44:00)

It's certainly an improvement on the Adelphi size wise, because of that hefty pocket in the adelphi which defeated the object making it a lot less slimline.

Bye the way I was surprised you say most A5s have 30mm rings - mine don't. I thought it was only the Malden, the Domino, and the Finsbury that had the larger rings? Perhaps I'm just buying the wrong binders - ideally 20mm for travel and 30mm for desk use is ideal.

I'd love to be able to order a binder, and as part of the order process order the size rings I want! A customised binder!

Have to say this is a good looking binder which ticks all the boxes and a very useful review.

Tim (2012-11-28 04:38:23)

Laurie - thanks for the review.

I don't think the Boston answers our cries at all! Yes, it has 20mm rings (traditionally A5 Filofaxes have had 25mm, not 30mm as you state) but at 41mm thick (source: Filofax website), that's 21mm of puffy padded covers! The Boston is actually BIGGER than many A5 binders! For example, the A5 Finchley is 235mm x 186mm. The Boston is 237mm x 195mm! So, it's neither compact nor slim!

With so many Filofaxes aimed at women and fashion, this was surely an opportunity to do something a bit different? Just for once! But yet again we have "the perfect chic accessory" - that's the Filofax marketing description of the Boston. So disappointing...

Deborah- Jane (2012-11-28 05:23:06)

I see where you are coming from Tim, the cheaper end of A5 ie identity, metropol, Domino do have have 30mm the expensive end is 25mm and some 20mm.....sadly someone mentioned men like gadgets and assume you only carry black or brown...this is a step but only a step.

Saffy (2012-11-28 06:24:49)

The Luxe A5 also has 20mm rings and is slim. Strangely it is not on the U.K. FF website but city organiser do have it in the brown, black and red. The empty weight is 298 g which is less than the personal Deco.

Yu (2012-11-28 08:30:38)

Thanks for the great review, Laurie!

Babs (2012-11-28 11:21:32)

I love the idea of a 20mm A5 but why so expensive?! Hopefully they'll come up with a less pricier alternative very soon.

Anita (2012-11-28 12:10:36)

Thanks for a great review, Laurie.

I had a brief look at the personal size when I recently visited the Conduit store but it didn't really grab me. Maybe I should have checked its strokeability :) I agree with Babs about the price as I don't think I'd be comfortable spending that type of money unfortunately.

taka (2012-11-28 14:22:57)

Very nice! So many pages in my A5 Aston go unused, this new Boston might fit the bill. Question....8th picture of review, the one showing the inside cover, what is the Filofax business card within the binder. I've seen that card in many pictures of binders. None of my binders came with it. Just wondering what it is? Cheers!

Steve Morton (2012-11-28 14:56:58)

You can see the details of the back of the card in this album

[http://s1293.beta.photobucket.com/user/philofaxy/library/Filofax %20Card](http://s1293.beta.photobucket.com/user/philofaxy/library/Filofax%20Card)

Steve

Nickie O'Hara (2012-11-28 15:17:22)

I'm loving that diary layout. I'm off to see if that's available for my A5.

I'm not too sure about a slimline A5 as I use mine for work and it's stuffed! However, this is a lovely one. I like the design of the clasp.

taka (2012-11-28 15:26:25)

LOL That's great!!! Thank you, Steve, for easing my worried mind! Cheers!

Yvonne Chiang (2012-11-28 20:39:42)

You just made me click on "Add to Cart".

Eeeep!

Savannah (2012-11-28 21:58:24)

The A5 Luxe is a better 20mm A5 and it's beautiful. I wouldn't consider either compact but they are both less unwieldy and heavy. I think what many are probably looking for is somewhere along the lines of 15-20 mm with a maximally streamlined, lightweight and unpadded leather cover - this would be easier for those who want to tote their Filofaxes about town or want an unobtrusive, simple Filofax with a larger page size. A lower price would also be appreciated. The 20mm A5 is still a good alternative if you would want to minimize on bulk and hate writing around large rings.

Alan Marshall (2012-11-28 23:57:47)

Interesting. The Boston is not on the filofaxusa website, but is on the filofax.co.uk site only in pink. The Personal sized Boston has 11mm rings and is also available in black and brown.

With respect to pensandleather, they seem to get ring sizes wrong a lot. Several personal-sized organizers with 11mm (7/16") rings, they list in the specs or details has having 1/4" rings, nearly half their actual size. 1/4" rings would be impractically small.

My current main a5/half-sheet binder is a dayrunner, with 20mm rings, a discontinued "Concorde" model. It is only fake "leather-look" vinyl, but it was quite inexpensive, and most importantly much thinner than the other fat ringed organizers. Also, this model is three-ringed unit, so I don't need a special 6-ring hole punch and there are many inexpensive refills and inserts that fit.

Laurie (2012-11-29 02:12:50)

The back of the card says there are natural variations in real leather that should not be considered defects but add character.

Neil (2012-11-29 10:10:15)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Savannah (2012-11-29 15:01:23)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Which of your Filofax Organisers have you slept with? (2012-11-29 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Yes you read that right... Which of your Filofax organisers have you slept with... or do you sleep with on a regular basis....???

The question came up at a recent Philofaxy meet up, so I quickly got out my Filofax and pen and wrote it down, because I thought why not ask our readers.... !!!! No subject is taboo here you know...

All I will say about this myself is that I can't sleep with any of my Malden's on the bed side table the aroma keeps me awake!

And before you ask I will not reveal the name of the person who asked the question!!!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-_aBipzZkKdU/ULYORJzSRvI/AAAAAAAAAON0/1FZmk-2TNeM/s1600/IMG_3270.JPG

Beverley (2012-11-29 01:23:03)

Not sure if this counts as I didn't plan to sleep with my Filo but on my last international flight I woke with a start drool on chin, clutching my Kendal pocket.

JasJan (2012-11-29 03:07:48)

My Osterley is on my bedside table every night without fail...not actually in my bed unless I can kick my husband out...I have thought about it!

Patricia (2012-11-29 03:56:52)

I have slept with one when it was brand new and I couldn't bare to be parted from it. I think it was my personal grey Malden.

Puddytat purr (2012-11-29 04:23:43)

My Malden sleeps in the bed next to me!

Partly because I'm forgetful and if I have an idea or remember something in the night; I have to write it down immediately or I'll never remember by morning!

Also, the Malden doubles as my wallet and I live with sticky fingered teenagers!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-11-29 04:52:56)

The current filofax I am using always sleeps on the bed next to me, usually on the pillow! The only time this has gone bad is when, one sleepy morning, I stretched my arm out, and I accidentally scratched my Malden with my sharp finger nails!! OOPS!!

Steve Morton (2012-11-29 05:17:00)

I hear you might have something nice and bright orange on your pillow soon....well done!

I've found the answer to finger scratches on my Ochre Malden. Lick your finger and rub the scratch with the damp pad of your finger and the scratch disappears.

Mani (2012-11-29 05:47:47)

My husband wouldnt let me...although i sure want to:) he often prises it out of my hands though because i just love holding and sniffing it (black pocket Amazona),even when I have nothing to write or consult from it.

I did put my first one under my bed for the first couple of days(Red pocket Metropol).

Butanben (2012-11-29 06:23:21)

My red pocket Amazona is my dream diary and so is always to be found with a pen ready, next to my bedside table. So interesting to look back at the dreams which your sub-conscious is sending out to you.

SNARLing: (2012-11-29 07:06:22)

heh heh. I've pretty much slept with all of mine. besides the general feeling of attachment that occurs with my current "love" I'm also really Keene to a super flat/ thin FILO. the Malden flattened out within a week of sleeping with it (in my right hand, by my hip) I think the body warmth transfers a bit of something to them. plus I like to feel the transfer of energy. the first night I had the compact luxe, sleeping with it, I also had a dream about it so I kept it (initially, i was on the fence about keeping it like I seem to be with all if them anymore) I don't remember the specifics of the dream but I woke thinking. ok then. guess I'm keeping you" and it has since be my favourite model and bedmate although in the pocket form. I've recently acquired a personal Aston -I'd say about 2 weeks and that one would be nicely broken in sleep wise heh heh please forgive my iPhone post plus greetings from the undead to everyone - missed hanging out here

Ro (2012-11-29 07:35:12)

I love this sort of attachment. We often lose this sort of thing as we grow older, and it is a bit of a gift if we can keep it alive.

Ro (2012-11-29 07:39:01)

My elderly Ostrich sleeps on the night stand within easy reach every night, but is keen on climbing into bed with me for any and all naps.

Storm Bunny (2012-11-29 08:47:56)

My planner goes with me everywhere I go, but they have their own place. They live in my bag or on my desktop. I'm not a morning person, so I rather don't look at my filofax when I'm hating the world for waking me up so early.

Elizabeth González (2012-11-29 09:32:28)

My Domino in personal size and the A5 has slept in my bedside table since I got them and the Malden once in my bed just right at the side of my pillow (n.n)

Rori Montoya (2012-11-29 11:50:16)

Both Maldens :D Considering upgrading my relationship with my personal Aston though...

Sirpa-Kaarina (2012-11-29 13:09:44)

My personal Baroque

Steve Morton (2012-11-29 13:17:48)

I chuckled when I saw the picture posted by City Organiser...

Without a doubt the year's most important question from our favourite group. We're tweeting a pic soon...

<http://twitter.yfrog.com/z/nw4cbqoj>

Recycle.by.me.blogspot.com (2012-11-29 13:29:06)

LOL, i thought i was the only one to do this :O)

I agree with what Roanne said:

"I love this sort of attachment. We often lose this sort of thing as we grow older, and it is a bit of a gift if we can keep it alive."

It's almost magical :O)

My malden Ocre or my Chameleon in spring green

Steph (2012-11-29 15:32:21)

I don't sleep with any persay, but my personal is in my handbag which is ALWAYS on my bedside table, and my A5 is usually in front of my handbag on the bedside table. I don't think my husband would appreciate it if I put them in the actual bed. Sorry both Filofaxes are chameleons.

Anthony Hill (2012-11-29 16:09:15)

There seem to be a lot of "coming out" here. The point raised sometime back, some people call their Filos by name, a human name actually. Therefore could their other half, spouses etc be concerned about this relationship. I must confess here I have done with a new purchase my Crimson Malden.

kanalt (2012-11-29 16:32:52)

My filo sleeps in the other room - in the office, on the desk. I've asked him many times to sleep with me, but he's offended by my husband's snoring. So the other room will have to do. ;-)

Boopy (2012-11-29 17:11:15)

I haven't slept physically with my Green Pocket Topaz, however I have had him in my dream. Dream was a long one but basically I was told I wasn't allowed to take him with me, and I burst into tears in the dream AND I awoke with tears streaming down my face in real life haha. Issues I think!

Anthony Hill (2012-11-29 18:29:26)

Could the above revelations constitute as grounds for divorce. Sited as the other woman/man? Filofax has a lot to answer for !!!

Maria (2012-11-29 21:26:47)

I fell asleep next to Kendal last week :)

Cheryl (2012-11-30 00:37:43)

Why of course and whichever Filo I happen to be using at the time. My usual bed time routine has more to do with 'nesting' than sleeping. So its normal for me to grab my Filofax, whatever book I'm reading or my Ipad, and a cup of hot chocolate with butterscotch schnaps; snuggle down into the blankets with my favorite things around

me. (Don't tell my hubby or my dog...they think they are my favorite things, lol).

Anita (2012-11-30 04:16:25)

Mine always used to live by my PC, but due to good behaviour is now allowed occasionally into the bedroom & curls happily up on the bedside table. Unlike my cat, it doesn't try to wake me up at 5 a.m. :)

Anthony Hill (2012-11-30 05:36:33)

I am very worried about the fickle nature of some. I think that one has to be true through all the ups and downs and all that life has to through at it.

Steve: This post has been probably one of the best and most amusing and has brought out some very interesting in-sights to peoples personalities.

neonlicht (2012-11-30 13:37:32)

My mini Domino in violet, which I use to take notes on English vocab and expressions I read or hear when I'm reading, browsing the net, or watching TV at home. I often review some of those notes before going to sleep and in several occasions I've failed to let it on the night stand before falling to sleep with it.

DEM (2012-11-30 20:00:53)

Okay, I'll confess....I've taken Buttercup to bed with me but just as I'm falling asleep I suddenly worry that it will fall out of the bed, hit at just the right angle on the floor and ruin the rings!!! So off it goes to the night table.

Papillion210569 (2012-12-01 03:13:50)

I will admit I have taken my personal Kendal to bed with me, I fell asleep stroking it....cos it's sooo soft...:)

Papillion210569 (2012-12-01 03:14:05)

I will admit I have taken my personal Kendal to bed with me, I fell asleep stroking it....cos it's sooo soft...:)

LJ (2012-12-02 02:36:53)

I rarely take a filo into my bedroom now as when I do I end up awake til silly'o' clock writing and over-thinking. I have been found before asleep on the bed (pen still in hand) surrounded by some of my babies as I had decided that I needed to do some serious planning :o)

Steve Morton (2012-12-06 04:12:16)

It's also put a smile on a few peoples faces who haven't commented on the post but have emailed me!

Alison Morton (2012-12-06 04:13:42)

I sleep with Mr Philofaxy.

Nuff said.

Alison

(The Hand of Philofaxy)

Free For All Friday No 211 (2012-11-30 00:00) - Anita Lim

As some of you might know, I'm a real fan of the Maldens. However, I think I've changed my thinking now from 'this is what I've purchased, so I have to stick to it' to a slightly more flexible way of thinking which means I'm allowing myself to sample ones I may not have considered before.

So, how about if you could have a Filofax which isn't just limited to one finish?? I don't often visit the Filofax website, but having a recent nose I came across this: [1]Filofax Classic Mashup and I think it's a great way to update the Classic. And discuss...

And as always, please feel free to discuss anything Filofax or ring bound planner related, and I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

1. <http://tidd.ly/586e6959>

Doris (2012-11-30 00:37:13)

Anita, I haven't been looking much myself lately so was pleasantly surprised to find a Classic Mash-Up. It's an interesting model.

Cloudberry (2012-11-30 01:16:02)

Interesting - I wrote about a mix of materials in my blog "New designs for Filofax"! Other planner brands have used this approach - I recently re-homed my F/Covey Mia, a two tone binder. I would love a FF in a suede and leather combo.

redlipstickandpearls (2012-11-30 03:08:49)

As much as I love the idea behind it, it just isn't executed as well as it should be...I guess this is one you would have to see in real life before making a decision to purchase it.

David Popely (2012-11-30 03:31:37)

OK, I need some help for a third party today. My lovely daughter (who uses no paper diary at all) is really struggling with her university work, and I'm meeting her next week to see if I can cheer her up and help out. I want to introduce her to paper planning, and that almost certainly means Filofax.

First off, I need recommendations for a basic Personal *cheap* (-est, not -ish!). In this case, 'girly' is definitely good!

As an alternative is anyone getting rid of something along this line?

If anyone cares to share about how they plan their *own* uni work, or send me links to previous posts, I'll be doing a bit of task-specific research over the weekend :)

Thanks for your help - as always, I know this is a community I can rely on to 'step up'!

Paul B (2012-11-30 03:33:40)

Interesting concept but not a good mix. The dots clash with the other panels and the colours are a mess. I think they'd do a lot better if they looked backwards and took inspiration from the quality and styles of the 80s and 90s. They obviously hit a sweet spot with the Malden. It isn't my cup of tea but it's clearly very popular, so it shows they can still pull something out of the bag when they put their minds to it. Unfortunately, the more they listen to the nonsense trotted out by Slam PR (that we like to make notes and we love fashion), the less likely they are to repeat their successes. That said, I'm sure lots of people would pay for a custom binder option, where you could choose the leather, the finish, the colour, possibly even the pockets and slots. I don't think they have time on their side, with sales down 50 % and a venture capital stakeholder wanting to offload it.

Paul B (2012-11-30 03:39:56)

David, once I got over the shock that your offspring doesn't use a Filofax (!), I thought a visit to The Perpetual Student's blog would be a great start. She's done lots of posts on how she actually uses her FF to plan her studies, keep track of grades, etc. and as her name suggests, she's been doing it a while. I bought my 11 year old nephew a used Filofax college for starting secondary school and he loves it. I know it's at the opposite end of the scale but I figured it's never too early to learn good habits. Hope you find a binder suitably priced and stylish. I think I'd struggle to track studies in anything smaller than a personal but I'm sure there are people who manage to do it in a pocket. It's a pity you just missed the sale on Filofax uk website.

Paul B (2012-11-30 03:42:50)

There's a personal songbird in green on adspot for 20 euro. Does that count as girly enough.

Deborah- Jane (2012-11-30 04:29:29)

My 14 year old loves the A5 red domino (sold for £22 whsmith online sale still going)

Ace cards ans gifts are selling a personal faux filofax for £ 3.99 www.24ace.co.uk with some nice inserts, My 17 year old loves the personal line burst olympic 2012 in pink

Saffy (2012-11-30 04:34:08)

Hi David, there has been a lot of mention of Filofax in TKMaxx and its sister store Homesense lately. I found only a couple in my local TKMaxx but going by peoples finds Homesense would be your best option. Are you near Cardiff? There is a Homesense in Cardiff.

It may be worth a look?

Sadly for me the closest Homesense is roughly an hour's drive away but my bank account would be very happy about this.

teddy edwards (2012-11-30 04:58:27)

Re-the Classic Mashup. I think it's hideous.

So too, was the 'improved' Filofax featured in webfinds, which now has an edging of glittery gold nail varnish. I guess the owner of that Filo really does love fashion and likes to make notes

This FrankenFilo is not for me!

David Popely (2012-11-30 05:01:53)

There's a very important point here, for those of us who are in business - the accessories you carry tell a story about you, long before you have had a chance to tell your own. I wouldn't go to a business meeting with a pastel-coloured FF any more than I would wear trainers or ripped jeans. The right tool for the job is what's needed, and that means leather, muted, good lines, professional-looking.

teddy edwards (2012-11-30 05:39:44)

Eloquently put, David.

For work I use a personal Hampshire in brown. It is understated and business-like and I would not consider changing at all. I have used this for the last 12 years.

I craft in my spare time and to keep track of materials and capture ideas for future projects, I use a personal Domino in purple. It's about as frivolous as I would want to go! I like that it looks different to my work Filo and am quite happy using it for my craft projects, but I would not dream of taking it to work with me and using it there!

David Popely (2012-11-30 05:50:33)

I'm in the unusual position today of looking for a binder for my lovely daughter (see above comments), so I'm cruising the Paperchase site in a way I'm not accustomed to!

My go-to binder (since I sold my ochre Malden) is a vintage Hampstead, which is likewise understated, professional-looking, and I won't be swapping it out or upgrading it until it falls apart, which is likely to be never!

Anita (2012-11-30 06:01:03)

I just assumed that the different panels & colours are meant to clash? Not one that I'd personally buy, but I'm pleased that they're trying different things.

I agree with David as I'd happily take my Ascot anywhere for business & I love its classy looks & design.

Laurie (2012-11-30 06:08:29)

I personally don't find the mashup shown appealing, but I like the idea of a mix of smooth leather and suede, or silky fabric and velvet.

Let me just say though, Filofax's prices seem to be getting higher and higher! Unfortunately lately their quality has not matched their high prices.

David Popely (2012-11-30 06:10:38)

Agreed Laurie - I'm off to Paperchase to shop for a binder for my daughter....never thought I'd say *that*

PaperMeister (2012-11-30 07:33:57)

Yuck!

natalie (2012-11-30 07:40:55)

Although it does depend on what the profession is, surely?

I produce hand dyed textiles (full time job for nearly seven years) and have been considering how I could cover a Filofax with handwoven fabric, or incorporate my business into the product on the outside in some other way - a zip pull, a pocket on the outside held with woven bands perhaps (it's already on the inside).

I'm not a girly girl, pink is my least favourite colour in the whole world, closely followed by purple but I know with complete certainty that adding some high quality hand made "textile" to my Filofax in some subtle but skilled way would be an advert for what I do, and an opening for conversations with customers and suppliers.

David Popely (2012-11-30 07:51:36)

Very true.....and a very good point.

teddy edwards (2012-11-30 08:12:28)

I take your point Natalie. We both work in different circles so what is 'business-like' to us both will differ. I don't use a zip around Filo, but can see how a uniquely designed zip pull would be a nice touch of individuality.

Here's a question for you ... have you thought of approaching FF as an official supplier for fabric? (Songbird type thing)

natalie (2012-11-30 08:13:01)

I can quite see how a pink sparkly FF is not appropriate in a more formal business environment though, as you say. Even Richard Branson wears proper shoes!

acclair (2012-11-30 08:15:39)

Good lord that thing is hideous! What has happened to thier designers?!!

Emily Stanley (2012-11-30 08:57:38)

Hi Everyone :-)

I'm quite new to FF but seem to have developed a habit quite quickly! In addition to my Personal Finsbury, I recently picked up an A5 Malden in Vintage Pink (an absolute steal for only £24.99 in TK Maxx!). I intend to use this from the summer onwards when I start my teacher training but I can't seem to find many academic refills. I'll need day per page so I was just wondering if this exists - is it something FF bring out nearer the time? Thanks :-)

Butanben (2012-11-30 09:22:16)

I think this is a clever idea by Filofax, and a bit of frivolity, also a good way of using up any off cut left overs I suppose. Good housekeeping, but it's just not to my personal taste, too clashing and '60s hippy in style. I think David put it very well.... professional, durable and functional.... old fashioned good quality in both binders and inserts is what is required, with a range of colours and styles in all sizes. Enough said. David, I have got some tips and hints for uni Filofax organisation that I sent to a few others in the Philofaxy group a while back. Your daughter may be able to cherry pick a few ideas for when she sets up her new Filo. Only too happy to help. Will mail you in the next couple of days. xx

Butanben (2012-11-30 09:26:51)

Excuse typo.... meant to read clashing... as in 60's hippy style!!

Suzee Neal (2012-11-30 09:39:40)

hmmm To me it looks like a quilt lol but I sew alot and maybe I just have that in my mind.. I wouldnt buy it though. Since I bought my first Holburn personal I have purchased a Holborn pocket and a Pink Domino A5 ,, I have been watching the FF usa site all week. They are having Cyber Monday all week and not that I needed any more but each day is a sale! I purchased the Holborn slim in brown last Monday. I thought I would use it as my checkbook. Today their sale is half off the Petal pockets are marked down to 11 \$. Even if I dont use it it would be a good gift! OH and anything over 10 \$ shipping is free! I can not past a good deal up..or maybe I have that Filo bug... hehe

GothBarbie (2012-11-30 09:49:35)

I've only had my first Filofax for a year now and I started off with the Apex Personal in pink with teal accent - I LOVE IT. I think it would be girly enough for any gal and it's very affordable!
Highly Recommend!

GothBarbie (2012-11-30 09:54:46)

I wanted to share my Filofax find with people who will actually CARE - I found a beautiful leather Tejus Pocket Purse at the thrift store last night for - are you ready - \$1.25 (US)!
It's in GREAT condition and has dividers and blank writing paper. I'm excited to think up a user for my new little friend! \$1.25 ! I'm still AMAZED!

GothBarbie (2012-11-30 09:55:32)

use - not user! oops! too excited to type.

Suzee Neal (2012-11-30 09:57:46)

Oh I care!! lol I love bargains!!! Great job for the find!

Deborah- Jane (2012-11-30 10:13:00)

The only downside to peaperchase is they don't do A5....

Valerie (2012-11-30 10:52:02)

Awesome find! For a buck-twenty five, how could one pass that up?!!

Hannah C. (2012-11-30 10:56:52)

Personally, I favor the Domino among the cheaper models.
I'm currently using a Personal with 2ppd inserts to keep track of all my grad school coursework. I have a page with all my courses for the semester, and then I have a page for each course with the assignments, professor information, and grades. I also have pages with other notes, like the citation method I have to use, my degree plan, and some notes for classes. It's working well for me.

Cheryl (2012-11-30 11:21:55)

Other than the Filofax Size Guide here on Philofaxy is there a compiled list 'vintage' Filofaxes with their sizes, year of introduction or years in circulation, with pictures, pros/cons and suggestions of where to most likely find them for sale (besides ebay). I was looking around this site under the 'vintage' label and others posts but was wondering if there was a compilation somewhere. Thank you.

Steve Morton (2012-11-30 11:23:32)

It's one of the things I've asked Filofax UK if they have such a list could we make it public... waiting to hear back on that request

Steve Morton (2012-11-30 11:26:51)

I wonder if the mash up would have pleased more of you if it was a little more conventional in the mixture of the panels. May be different colour panels but all the same finish, say a mixture of the panels used on the Classic already. Or may be introduce a black and white chequered pattern so it looks like a Finishing Flag in motor racing.

Suzee Neal (2012-11-30 11:41:47)

Black and white pattern would be cool! I live a hour from the indy race track ..home of the indy 500 =)

Cheryl (2012-11-30 12:29:39)

That's very cool, thanks Steve!

Neil (2012-11-30 13:29:40)

David, my daughter's at uni and is using an ARC A5 notebook. Choose a leather binder, add some dividers for a couple of quid, and you're looking at £17 in total. My daughter prefers it in lectures because it can be folded back on itself.

kanalt (2012-11-30 13:44:38)

I have to agree that I'm not a fan of the mashup. Vera Bradley did some bags with this same idea, using various Fabric pieces from their main collection, and I didn't care for them either. I think, to me, it looks too cluttered and non-uniform. If you like that style, then it's a good option. But I prefer clean lines and symmetry, (probably something to do with my need for right angles and consistency) so it's not something I'd ever purchase.

Rori Montoya (2012-11-30 13:55:56)

HID. EE. US. @.@

Alice x (2012-11-30 15:39:39)

Am i the only person who loves the Mash-up?

However i would like pictures of the individual binders and the ability to pick which one you buy, or stock it in the stores and not just online. Also i think they should have made the back the same pattern - the 4 squares i mean. I like the different textures and patterns - i don't like the price however - if it was half the price i would totally buy one, and even then i would have to save!

Lily (2012-11-30 17:24:07)

I love the mash up! I have a feeling there may be some on eBay after Christmas

Alan Marshall (2012-11-30 21:17:05)

Well the mash up is not my cuppa tea, but I'm sure some will love it. I work with a lot of creative types, and I wouldn't be bothered if one of these came out at a business meeting. I've seen more garish things, particularly with the way some have personalized their computers.

Today, I bought a Finsbury Personal Slimline, which doesn't appear to be listed on either the UK or US Filofax websites. I was planning to buy the fake-leather Metropol, but (1) it was out of stock and (2) the Finsbury was only \$10 more than the Metropol. I looked at the Cuban, but despite the same ring size, it was somewhat thicker and therefore bulkier inside my jacket pocket. I also could not justify the extra \$40. So far, my biggest complaints about the Finsbury are (1) the ring mechanism is a bit stiff and hard to open, and (2) the pen loop sometimes catches when I'm trying to slip it into my jacket pocket.

I discovered something today: Inside jacket pockets on men's suits are sometimes different widths. In the jacket I was wearing today, I could easily slip the Finsbury or Cuban into the left inside pocket, but it was tough to get either into the right pocket, particularly the Cuban. The staff at Laywine's and I got into a good discussion about this; apparently it is normal.

janet (2012-12-01 03:39:56)

David, my daughter uses a snake domino for her university work. She has had it for a year now, uses it every single day and it looks as good as new. They are still available on one of the European websites - not sure if it is the German, Dutch or French one. It's cheap but limited edition and very unusual.

Anthannon (2012-12-01 04:49:41)

I have a purple songbird I was going to put on adspot or ebay. My 13 year was more of a aqua finsbury type but only after I Made her use my black metropol for a year to make sure she would look after it! Let me know if you are interested.

David Popely (2012-12-01 05:21:14)

It's a Personal I think I'm looking for - I can't see her using an A5, despite the space.....

David Popely (2012-12-01 05:22:23)

Anthannon, I fear it's actually too late - I'm off to London 0500 Tuesday, and I need it in my hand when I go - or to buy one when I'm there, which is why I'm probably off to Paperchase.....thanks anyway!

Anthannon (2012-12-01 17:38:26)

Good luck. with Christmas on the horizon Im sure you will pick up a bargain.

1.3 December

Web Finds - 1 December 2012 (2012-12-01 00:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax Blog Posts from around the internet:

1. [1]My Domino Family - Jagged Little Thoughts
2. [2]Making a Personal sized page - Filofaximile
3. [3]Filofax-colors (3): Brown and Orange - Filomaniac
4. [4]Bye bye Filofax, hello Midori - Rapunzel's World
5. [5]filofax Christmas love ^^ - Mamma StressFilofaxATA
6. [6]Filofax Farbkatastrophe - Chaotic Perfectionist
7. [7]Guest Post - Steve Morton - Plan Create Succeed
8. [8]To-Do List Prioritizing: Do It YOUR Way - Homemakers Daily
9. [9]Question of the month #2 What's your favorite Filofax? - My Filo World
10. [10]Motivation and a little splurge - Nothing's Original Anymore
11. [11]Spreading the flex word - Just an Essex Girl
12. [12]Schnappatmung und Heulkampf - Chaotic Perfectionist
13. [13]Going to give my personal size a go.... Again - The Crazy Suburban Mom
14. [14]My Household Filofax - It's My Life!
15. [15]passing on the Filofax/stationery obsession! - Paper Lovestory
16. [16]Open Day at Dodo Towers in Aid of Cornwall Hospice Care - Dodo-Pad
17. [17]Filofax-Farben (4): Grün, Blau und Gelb - Filomaniac
18. [18]Suddenly Craving Chowda - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
19. [19]Purse problems solved? - Filofaximile
20. [20]Ruby - Vintage Filofax made for Browns - Cloudberry Musings
21. [21]DIY Tabs/Dividers - The Storage Studio
22. [22]iPhone therefore iAm? - Monetise This
23. [23]Personalised Photo Diary - Filomaniac

24. [24]December List for 365/30:Philofaxers - Rapunzel's World
25. [25]Friends, filofaxes and the Dalai Lama – guest post by Anita Lim - Dave's Blog
26. [26]Kendal disappointment - I love my stationery
27. [27]My Life Journal Filofax - It's My Life
28. [28]Neue Umfrage - Grünes Filofax- Chaotic Perfectionist
29. [29]The Boston Binder by Franklin Covey - Friday, I'm in Love
30. [30]Filofax Office Brainwave - Cloudberry Musings
31. [31]Super Cute Kokeshi Doll Personalised Dividers with Tabs! - Filofax Love
32. [32]November Month in Review 2012 - Behind my Purpley Life

And here are the latest Filofax videos from the internet

IFRAME: [33]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/gQNUZEYeGks?rel=0>

IFRAME: [34]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/9bg6l6RT2NU?rel=0>

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/eTZA0ZBPgS8?rel=0>

IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/cwX7VJFnPvc?rel=0>

IFRAME: [37]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/jZ7s9L4seA0?rel=0>

IFRAME: [38]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/iq6mv-0qk7A?rel=0>

IFRAME: [39]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/7OKBW9j68oA?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/my-domino-family.html>
2. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/11/making-personal-sized-page.html>
3. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-farben-3-braun-und-orange.html>
4. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/11/bye-bye-filofax-hello-midori.html>
5. <http://mammastressataxd.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-christmas-love.html>
6. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-farbkatastrophe.html>
7. <http://www.plancreatesucceed.com/2012/11/26/guest-post-steve-morton/>
8. <http://homemakersdaily.com/to-do-list-prioritizing-do-it-your-way/>
9. <http://myfiloworld.com/question-of-the-month-2-whats-your-favorite-filofax/>
10. <http://nothingsoriginalanymore.blogspot.fr/2012/11/motivation-and-little-splurge.html>
11. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/11/spreading-flex-word.html>
12. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.fr/2012/11/schnappatmung-und-heulkampf.html>
13. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/going-to-give-my-personal-size-go-again.html>
14. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/11/my-household-filofax.html>
15. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/11/passing-on-filofaxstationery-obsession.html>
16. <http://dodopadblog.com/2012/11/29/open-day-at-dodo-towers-in-aid-of-cornwall-hospice-care/>
17. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-farben-4-grun-blau-und-gelb.html>
18. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/11/29/suddenly-craving-chowda/>
19. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/11/purse-problems-solved.html>
20. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/ruby-vintage-filofax-made-for-browns.html>
21. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/11/diy-tabsdividers.html>
22. <http://monetisethis.wordpress.com/2012/11/27/iphone-thereforeiam/>
23. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/11/personalised-photo-diary.html>
24. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/11/december-list-for-36530philofaxers.html>

25. <http://davepopely.wordpress.com/2012/11/30/friends-filofaxes-and-the-dalai-lama-guest-post-by-anita-lim/>
26. <http://ilovemystationery.blogspot.fr/2012/11/kendal-disappointment.html>
27. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/11/my-life-journal-filofax.html>
28. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.fr/2012/11/neue-umfrage-grunes-filofax.html>
29. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.com/2012/11/the-boston-binder-by-franklin-covey.html>
30. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/11/filofax-office-brainwave.html>
31. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/11/30/super-cute-kokeshi-doll-personalised-dividers-with-tabs/>
32. <http://mypurplelife.blogspot.fr/2012/11/november-month-in-review-2012.html>
33. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/gQNUZEYeGks?rel=0>
34. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/9bg6l6RT2NU?rel=0>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/eTZA0ZBPgS8?rel=0>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/cwX7VJFnPvc?rel=0>
37. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/jZ7s9L4seA0?rel=0>
38. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/iq6mv-0qk7A?rel=0>
39. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/70KBW9j68oA?rel=0>

Paul B (2012-12-01 05:18:04)

There's a 15 % off sale at filofax.co.uk. I think its today only. Here's the details:

15 % OFF TODAY

Personalise your organiser with our extensive range of accessories

Whether it's an upgrade to cotton cream paper or a London tube map, with 15 % off paper & essentials you can buy it all

Simply use code DAY1 at the checkout

OFFER ENDS 9.29am 2/12/12

excludes diary refills

kanalt (2012-12-02 09:51:01)

Wow, I'm really liking the orange osterley. (Love my plum one!). Question though: what is this winning Wednesday on twitter thing? I don't get to sign in everyday so clearly I'm missing out. :-)

Reader Under the Spotlight - Wendy (2012-12-02 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Today I would like to introduce you to Wendy.

My name is Wendy Van Camp and I blog about writing, writing tools, and novels at [2]No Wasted Ink. I'm 47 years old and have been married to the same wonderful guy for seventeen years. We make our home in Southern California. I'm a self-employed artisan jeweller and certified gemologist with a sideline of writing novels, short stories and articles. My life is full of travel on off-beaten paths to beautiful parks, mountain top forests, and resort hotels in the American Southwest. This is balanced by time creating

jewellery or writing in my office studio.

Often times I live without electricity or cell phone service while I'm attending concerts, festivals, or conventions for my work. I've grown tired of experiencing tech fail while on the road.

This has been the reason behind my new love for the Filofax. Paper never runs out of batteries, the information doesn't get accidentally deleted, and using paper along with a fountain pen makes me feel happy. So I'm now journal binding, filling composition notebooks with research notes, re-learning penmanship/calligraphy, and happily using Filofax to organize all my creative pursuits in wonderful analog style. Paper is a good thing.

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

I received my first Filofax in January of 2012. A fellow Nanowrimo writer from England owned a Filofax that she used as a writing journal. She was a true enabler! I fell in love with the quality leather and all the pockets and thought that it would be the perfect organizer for my own writer's journal. My husband bought me a Personal Crimson Malden as a late Christmas present. I use it everyday for novel research notes and to track the posts and marketing of my writing blog.

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

I had always used Day-Timer in the past when I have used paper organizers. I had one when I was in college during the late 1980s, but lost it as I switched over to electronic PDAs or online calendars as I started my career. A few years ago, I bought a Day-Timer with a puffy plastic cover to use as a Flylady control journal, but due to its cheap construction I found that I did not like using it and eventually it found a home in a lower closet drawer. I tried to use this cheap binder for my writing journal briefly, but in the end I couldn't see myself using it.

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

My favorite is the Personal Crimson Malden. I love the color and the feel of the leather. It has more pockets than I need, but I don't view this as bad.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I own two Filofax organizers currently. The above mentioned Personal Crimson Malden and a new Slimline Brown Holborn.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I am surprised at how well the Slimline Holborn is working as a wallet. The leather is very soft, but durable. The brown color is rich, but subdued enough to carry everyday. The size and thinness of the binder has turned out to be a good fit for my purse. I do not keep a diary in the Holborn as I prefer to use a pocket Moleskine for this task. The lack of diary pages helps to keep the binder slim enough to be useful. The Holborn holds my credit cards, cash, and a section for ToDos and Lists. I am compiling a travel directory in the back for hotels, resorts, restaurants that are color coded as to region so that I have that information when I travel. I eventually want to put in driving guides to some of the work locations that I re-visit each year to make finding parking or less known routes easier for me to remember. I don't like to store this information on my smartphone because I need to leave my phone off as I travel to conserve power. This allows me access to the information without worry about batteries, if my phone's apps are working or not, and everything is easy to find unlike the jumble that is my smartphone directory. My Personal Crimson Malden is my writing journal. The diary is where I track what is being posted on my writing blog, I keep lists of blog ideas or other notes in a center section, and the back section is reserved for research notes, character sketches and other related information for my current novel project. The research notes are printed onto filofax paper via my Scrivener writing program. I keep the program and the printed notes in sync on a regular basis. I use the Malden to take notes at writing seminars as well, although lately I am thinking of developing another binder for that use alone. I might consider an A5 or a Filofax Flex combined with a notebook for this task next year.

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

I love the feel of the leather and the classic good looks of the binders. I don't go for fashion and flash, I want something that feels good in my hand and is durable. A Filofax should last for years and keep looking stylish in an understated, conservative way.

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

First, it would have a soft and good quality leather like my Malden or Holborn. Being touchable is a big selling point with me. I also like a good selection of color beyond basic black. My favorite colors are red,

purple, brown, or blue. Second, I like to have plenty of pockets and fewer zipped pockets in the binder. The notebook pocket in the back is a big selling point to me. Finally, a pen loop that is a combination of leather on the top for looks and elastic in the back so I can fit a wide variety of pens in the binder.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

My Malden is on my desk near my computer or in my laptop tote bag when I am writing on the go. My Holborn remains in my purse.

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

I am in love with the brown Regency in compact. The ostrich printed leather is beautiful and the pocket layout seems ideal for a wallet. However, due to its high price tag I decided to try the less expensive Slimline Holborn instead. As much as I would like to buy the Regency, unless it is gifted to me, I will pass on it due to the price. The Slimline Holborn has turned out better than my expectations and has fit the role I've chosen for it well.

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

The Crimson Malden was the most expensive. My husband paid full retail for it at Pens & Leather. I paid below retail for my Holborn from a vendor on eBay, but it was not a deep discount. The Slimline Holborn was in pristine condition and I have no complaints using eBay to purchase a Filofax as apposed to a retail vendor.

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

I love the sense of community here. I enjoy viewing all the links to other people's blogs that also enjoy binders, stationary and Filofax. I have participated in the Skype chat a few times and like talking in real time with fellow Filofax lovers from all over the world. All the tips on the blog have helped me learn to use my binders more effectively and have given me new ideas on how to customize mine to make them more pleasing to use. I end up visiting this blog quite often.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

To be honest, there is nothing that I dislike about the Philofaxy blog. It has great content and is updated often. What is there not to love?

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

I'm still old-fashioned enough that I prefer to buy physical CDs. My last CD was purchased directly from the musicians at a local Highland Games where the band was performing live. It is "Ready for the Storm" by The Brown Sisters and George Cavanaugh.

Thank you Wendy for agreeing to go under our spotlight. As always if you would like to feature in a future Reader Under the Spotlight, please contact us at Philofaxy.

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-c0h1i4QcnHk/UKf9G7dSUXI/AAAAAAAAOFE/qY-HZR5We4Y/s1600/Wendy+Van+Camp+Headshot.jpg>
2. <http://nowastedink.com/>

Paul B (2012-12-02 05:05:07)

Hi Wendy. Really enjoyed reading about your collection and the uses, especially the writing. I have also newly discovered fountain pens and the pleasure of writing with one. Particularly interested in your thoughts on Scrivener versus other software you may have tried? I think a Filofax (or any other) binder lends itself perfectly to use as an aid for writers, and the flexibility is superb. And I'm sure many of us on here agree with the rationale behind taking offline periods, its a rare pleasure these days.

David Popely (2012-12-02 11:17:58)

Hi Wendy, thank you for such an interesting post. I was particularly happy to find another low-tech protagonist - I agree with all your thoughts about tech failure, and have experienced my fair share - enough for me to have become convinced that paper is the way to go.

Do you do your writing on paper? How do you do your blog posts when off-grid?

We're currently considering going off-Web as we downsize towards moving in February.....if you have any experience of this I'd be interested to hear it.

Thanks again for a most interesting post, and greetings from Wales, UK.

Best wishes

David

indigogarden (2012-12-02 14:34:36)

I'm a total Scrivener convert. The program has a great deal of flexibility so it can work with you whatever your style of writing. I view it more as an organizer of my novel and research than a word processor, although it certainly provides that function if you want it to. I don't often use Scrivener as a place to rough draft, unless the project is short such as a blog post, but for revision and organization, it has transformed my writing process. Other programs that I have used are MS Word, Abi Word, Wordpad and Evernote.

I keep MS Word since there are still publishers or corporations that will only accept manuscripts in that format, but I generally do my writing in Scrivener and then export to MS Word. Wordpad I use when I want to create text without extra coding inserted into it. Evernote is good for research notes on the fly since it syncs with all my electronic gizmos. I don't recommend Abi Word. I have dropped using it in favor of MS Word.

indigogarden (2012-12-02 15:06:13)

I am coming to believe that the shift to total tech is not a good idea. Paper still has a place in our lives, but I believe its uses will change as time goes on. In many ways, paper is superior to tech and in others tech is. As a culture, we will eventually discover a balance between the two.

I write on paper, but not as much as I used to back before the "age of information" started. For a long time I gave up on paper and tried to as paperless as possible. In the past two years I have revised this notion and have been re-introducing paper back into my life, but for certain uses, not as a general go to solution for everything.

I use composition notebooks where I freeform ideas for my novels which then become outlines for my larger projects. I write in them with a fountain pen when I can. Writing by hand slows down the process and I find that I remember what I write by hand more than what I write on a screen. When I transfer handwritten notes to Scrivener, the text gets an automatic revision. I will write the rough draft on an Alphasmart Neo, basically a digital typewriter with no internet access and then upload the text into Scrivener for organization. I also keep a Moleskine diary to be my daily planner, I write todo lists on paper which I keep in my Filofax and I keep my master phone list on paper with only the most used numbers on my smartphone. I also journal in a notebook with a fountain pen for pleasure. That being said, I don't view paper as the superior way to store written information. It takes up lots of room. I am currently developing a system to scan my handwritten and general information and saving it digitally.

As for being off-web, it is easy enough to do. I like to remain connected to the world, but due to my work that is often not possible. When I write during boondocking or dry-camping times, I will generally use the Alphasmart Neo. The batteries in it are good for 700 hours, so I am never without power and anything I write in it is instantly transferable to any writing prompt. The machine is extremely stable and instantly saves every keystroke. There is no chance of losing your data in the Neo. I can comfortably work on my novels, blog posts or letters in this manner. When I get a chance during my travels, I go down the mountain to a Starbucks and use their public wifi to connect with the internet and send my information where it needs to go, or simply wait and upload when I get home.

When you are off-grid, you have to develop a certain amount of patience when it comes to connections. Instant gratification is not always possible. I like the time away from the modern world and the pace it demands. It can be rejuvenating.

For example: I know of a professional travel writer that travels via a boat and uses his Neo to write on the deck of his vessel while away from cell phone signal and then uploads the text via his smartphone when he gets to port. I'm rather envious of his life-style, it is even more free than mine. :)

Filofax/Philofaxy Meeting - 26 November 2012 - Meeting Notes (2012-12-03 00:00) **- Steve Morton**

You might recall a few weeks ago, I [1]announced that I would be attending a meeting with Filofax UK at their London store. Unfortunately David couldn't attend the meeting due to pressing business commitments, but I was joined in London by Anita and Tracy.

Following that announcement I was contacted by quite a few of our readers, expressing their views etc. Kate TPS, created a summary document of all of your comments that were posted on the blog over a

three week period... not a simple task, so thank you to Kate for taking the time to do that. Here are the notes of the meeting, please feel free to ask any questions in the comments and I will do my best to answer them.

FILOFAX AND PHILOFAXY MEETING Monday 26th November 2012 at 14:00 held at Filofax Pen & Paper, Conduit Street, London

Attendees:

FILOFAX

SG Head of Marketing Services

JL NPD Director

LK Marketing Executive

PHILOFAXY

Steve Morton (SM) Philofaxy Contributor and blogger

Anita Lim (AL) Philofaxy Contributor and blogger

Tracey Lannigan (TL) Blogger 'Rapunzel's World'

Philofaxy.com

- SM gave an update on Philofaxy.com background. Worth noting the blog platform works on US time zones so content and comments from the UK will not go live instantly. The website traffic shows clear trends throughout the year and benefits from organic optimisation through linking and sharing content from other bloggers. Philofaxy has grown into a search engine of sorts that allows bloggers to find content quickly. The blog has a small amount of advertising and any commission after overhead costs goes to the charity Chimwemwe in Malawi.

Philofaxy Community

- SM gave an insight into the Philofaxy social community where they regularly have face to face meet ups in different cities around the world where the network has been established through the site (London, New York, Chicago, and Rotterdam). Bloggers and Filofax enthusiasts can exchange and review each other's products over lunch and store visit (e.g. Filofax Pen & Paper or City Organiser). SM has set up Skype where they can talk remotely and spends his time devising ways to serve the Philofaxy community better. They are keen to think of new ideas for paper inserts. SM has already designed and prints inserts.

Convention

- SM outlined his idea for user convention and due to the amount of planning involved it would be 2014. He hoped Filofax would be able to participate – SG/JL felt sure that this would be possible and they should discuss further when SM's plans are more established.

Open question session with SG and JL

- Q: TL asked the question, 'What went wrong with Slam PR?'
- A: SG explained the findings from recent research which set out to profile current Filofax users and identify new, target consumers. Filofax users are predominantly female (75 %), well educated and affluent, and use is primarily personal rather than business. They are interested in the functionality as well as the aesthetics of a Filofax organiser – the product helps them feel in control and organised. The survey found that the most likely new consumer is female and motivated to buy more for emotional reasons – ie because something looks good. They have a need and desire to use paper but

the aesthetics are highly important – they are impulsive shoppers. The Alice Temperley partnership was one strategy in the overall communications plan to target these new consumers. The partnership was highly visible due to the huge success of the media campaign. The strategy to align the brand with a British fashion designer was to appeal to these new consumers. Slam PR has been very successful in answering the brief on this project.

- SG noted the confusion amongst the Filofaxy community following the interview carried out by the MD of Slam PR. This was a promotional opportunity for the agency with a trade newswire and was not intended to be a consumer facing interview. The interview focused specifically on the fashion/Temperley strategy rather than the holistic PR strategy. SG and JL reiterated that Filofax is not a fashion brand.
- SG explained the Temperley partnership was coming to a natural end. Slam PR were appointed to fulfil a specific brief for which they are specialists in their field. Next year a new PR agency will be appointed to run a broader PR campaign, although the fashion credentials built up will remain an important part of the communications mix. SG will introduce SM to new agency at the appropriate time.
- TL highlighted she'd asked Slam PR for a Temperley Violet to review on her blog and was ignored. She did not receive a reply. SM also highlighted he'd asked Slam PR for press releases and had been ignored also.
- Q: We've found on some of the Finsbury and Chameleon product the colour rubs off.
- A: This was noted and JL explained the colour dying process and how these products are tipped by hand to create the two tone appearance.
- Q: Leather quality (e.g: Filofax Classic and Malden) – we've seen quite a lot of these that have a coating that bubbles and cracks.
- A: This was noted and JL explained that these are very successful lines with huge volumes being produced. Filofax Classic in particular has been around for many years and several thousand products are in the market. On a small proportion of some colours (e.g: Cherry), a coating is applied to the leather and this may have rubbed off.
- Q: The plastic hole punch is unusable and the metal version price is too high.
- A: There are two versions of the hole punch, a plastic and a metal desk version. The plastic version is designed to be used to punch a couple of papers at a time and is not suitable for large volume of papers for which the desk version is designed. The desk version is a more robust and elaborate item and is therefore more expensive to manufacture with a higher RRP.
- Q: Why are certain ranges discontinued when loads of people still desire them?
- A: JL explained that there may be an internal decision to stop producing or buying certain lines but it is not policy to communicate this to consumers as often the lines remain in the range for several months or years afterwards. In recent past, some consumer blogs have announced discontinued lines when in reality they will still be available for a long time. It is important to keep refreshing the range year on year with new innovation and designs. It would only be the high trend lines that we stop buying after one year.

Paper Quality

- SG explained that there has been no change to the paper specification for many years – there are several specification metrics such as grammage, burst, opacity etc. and there is a small acceptance +/- tolerance level for each. She explained that the company sourced a percentage of its paper from a Japanese paper mill prior to the Japanese tsunami 18 months ago. That paper mill was destroyed and the company was forced to move all paper production to another source (who they had been buying paper from for many years). The previously used Japanese paper is no longer available and the slight variations will be a result of the change in supplier rather than a change in specification. Filofax specifies an ‘off-white’ tinted paper because this has a more premium appearance than a bright white paper. Filofax will continue to review the paper spec as part of the product development process.
- SM highlighted the main issues within the community seem to be the bleed through when using fountain pens and that many pen bloggers had been reviewing this. JL suggested absorption may be better in some whiter papers than coloured paper due to the heavier coverage of ink applied to achieve the wash of colour on coloured paper.

New Product Development

- JL explained the new product development process. The company has around 40 markets around the world with at least 80 key contributors from these markets contributing new product ideas from trade and end users. These ideas are reviewed centrally by a commercial process and those that are viable go into the development cycle. The potential scale and number of ideas is therefore enormous.

Ring Mechs

- SM said the ring mechanism quality seemed to have deteriorated in the last year. SM put forward his theory as to why he thought this might be that the ring mechs are of sound quality at purchase but then after some given time, through wear and tear, they lose their elasticity. JL explained that the ring mechs are produced from various different manufacturers in different countries and so maintaining a consistent level of skill when assembling them has proved difficult. Millions of ring mechs are manufactured each year and the rejection rate has gone up by half a percent recently and overall it is still only a very small percentage.
- SM said the particular issues with the ring mechs were misalignment and physical gaps. The quality in older organisers is much better and there is a feeling in the community that we should go back to that.
- JL explained the number of QA staff has recently been increased and quality control (QC) process is 100 % checking.

New Product Ideas

SM highlighted that the community had some useful product ideas and suggestions for existing product designs:

- Slimmer ring mechs for A5s (20mm). JL advised that the Pennybridge A5 has incorporated this.
- Personal ring mech sizes to be bigger (30mm). JL advised that due to consumer demand the standard ring mech, 23mm is specified for this product.
- Can some organisers have two pen loops. JL advised this depends on the range and design of the organiser as to whether this could actually be physically incorporated, but request is noted.

- Customised binders e.g. colour, ring size and pen loops
- At the moment the monthly inserts are printed back to back which doesn't allow people to archive easily because, for instance, on the right hand page of January, you have the left hand page of February. More importantly, it is difficult to interweave monthly and weekly or monthly and daily pages. Suggestion is to have the Jan daily pages, then Jan monthly, Feb daily then Feb monthly.
- Monthly pages are tabbed for Personal and A5 only and not for Pocket and Mini. Also would be more useful to have a notes page on the reverse.
- 'Flatability' of the organiser covers. JL suggested that the user can manipulate the leather (depending on the range and design) so that over time the organiser becomes more supple. JL also suggested a You Tube video might be good for users to see the effectiveness.

SG suggested that rather than receiving ad hoc ideas throughout the year, it would be more useful to collate and have one input at the relevant time in the NPD process. She would get back to SM to discuss how and when this could be implemented.

Filofax Enthusiasts Collection

- JL explained the concept of an Enthusiasts collection, giving Filofax enthusiasts the opportunity to design special inserts. Three designs would be selected each year (voted on by Filofax users) and these would be produced and sold on the Filofax website.
- The mechanics of this are still in discussion but the idea is to launch this process in 2013. Philofaxy would be kept in the loop on this.

Filofax Website

- SM highlighted the fact that the Filofax website is dysfunctional in many areas such as errors on pages, some pages that haven't been updated for years (bank holiday dates) and products difficult to find – e.g. Time Management inserts and Compact sized organisers. The point being if these areas were corrected, customers would be more aware of the products and purchase more.
- SG acknowledged the issues with the current website and explained that a new site was currently in development for launch in the Spring of 2013. In the meantime there would be limited opportunity to make significant changes to the current site. However, the new site would be a much improved environment and shopping experience. SG suggested that the Philofaxy community might be able to assist with consumer testing of the new site in a test environment. SG/SM to liaise at appropriate time.

Communications

Filofax would like a more open dialogue with Philofaxy in future and SG would liaise with SM to confirm contact points.

Samples for blog reviews and marketing communications

Filofax will establish a more proactive outreach of product samples via the new PR agency for blog reviews in the future.

The meeting was drawn to a close at 16:30

I would like to thank Filofax for hosting the meeting and for taking time to listen to our views, concerns and ideas. Also thank you to Anita, Tracy, David, Kate and anyone else who sent in their ideas.

I will be reporting back to you in the coming months as things develop, I am sure you will support me in my work with Filofax to improve things for all of us.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/10/important-notice-please-read.html>

Kristy Sherrod (2012-12-03 00:28:20)

Sounds like it went well and I'm glad they seem to be willing to work with everyone!

indigogarden (2012-12-03 01:02:44)

This seems to be a productive meeting. I am looking forward to seeing the website and new products in 2013.

David Popely (2012-12-03 02:21:33)

So much stuff here that it's impossible to comment point by point right now. Steve, I'll send you my detailed comments in due course. However, sounds like it was a positive meeting, although I suspect we'll find out if the various points are to be taken forward or 'buried' in the way they have been in the past, in due course!

Papillion210569 (2012-12-03 02:27:42)

Sound like it all went well, let's see what happens in the new year.

gdigesu (2012-12-03 03:27:04)

Thank you for taking the time to meet the manufacturer.

Let's hope they act on something.

Anything.

acclair (2012-12-03 05:25:40)

Hmmm... They don't seem to actually provide answers of substance. The questions about the leather peeling and the hole punch for example, they just rephrased the question and answered it as a statement without giving proper reasoning. This happens all the time within the business I work; No real apologies or answers. The plastic hole punch is incredibly useless and can barley punch one paper, never mind a few. The leather peeling, yes I get there is a coating applied, but why was this not properly tested for durability?

Neil (2012-12-03 05:37:29)

Many thanks to Steve and others for making this meeting happen.

If the QC is 100 % checking, then they need checkers to check the checkers. But they could solve all the QC nonsense by just taking a look at an older ring mechanism through a magnifying glass (coming up in a forthcoming video on my blog by the way) and realise that the newer mechanisms just don't cut it for long term use. Sure, many filofaxes nowadays are bought as fashion accessories, and won't be subject to a hard life, but surely the difference in the factory gate cost of a decent mechanism, when compared to the type they're using now, must be a very small amount.

Neil (2012-12-03 05:51:53)

Just a quick comment about their answer to the paper issue, if I may.

Telling us that their paper quality hasn't changed for years is something we know already. That's why many of us want it changed. If I had been at the meeting, I could have whipped out a number of examples of paper from rival manufacturers and ask them why they seem to think that rubbish paper is acceptable when just about everyone else knows it isn't. They buy in their paper, so surely it isn't beyond the realms of possibility to just buy it in from a manufacturer who supplies nice paper.

It's like the owner of the burger van down the road, who charges a quid for a coffee, but insists on using the cheapest brand of coffee powder, just to squeeze an extra penny profit per cup, without realising that half his customers have now switched to the better coffee served by a different vendor.

David Popely (2012-12-03 05:52:34)

Unfortunately this amounts to a restatement of the time-honoured 'it's not made like it used to be' gambit. This is universally true - things are *not* made like they used to be because they used to be made to last, whereas now they (things generally) are made to wear out. It's called built-in obsolescence, and it's one of the ways in which our glorious Government, in cahoots with immoral retailers, ensure repeat consumption (fuelled by

ever-increasingly-hyped aspirations)to fuel their goal of ever-increasing growth in GDP. The fact that this is impossible hasn't dawned on them as yet, but until it does, built-in obsolescence, and a world economic system built on debt, are here to stay.....sorry.

Lily (2012-12-03 06:25:49)

I agree on the difficulty of finding Compact organisers - lots of the European websites have Compact on the drop-down menu for sizes when browsing (not specific organiser pages)

Neil (2012-12-03 07:02:19)

If people will forgive me for posting three times in one morning, I'd just like to comment about the response from Filofax to the thorny issue of "flatability".

I know the reason why at least one, possibly most, modern filofaxes have problems with lying flat, because I've dissected one to find out what's under the leather. What appears to be several layers of cardboard, or something looking very similar to cardboard, is, in my opinion, unlikely to respond to "manipulation" in the way that a single piece of leather can.

Last year, out of curiosity, I soaked a Finsbury in Nivea for several days (a time honoured method for softening leather) and employed some extremley drastic methods to try and get this modern binder to open as flat as my English binders made before 1991.

Alas, my efforts were superficially successful, through bending the binder back on itself and weighting it down overnight, but I had to repeat the process regularly.

In my opinion, the only way to achieve effective flatability is to simply return to the use of materials and construction methods employed when filofaxes were made in England, perhaps increasing the retail price by a small amount to allow for the slightly increased production costs.

I'm eagerly awaiting the proposed Youtube video, that may show us how we get a modern Filofax to lay as flat as Filofaxes of yesteryear.

Despite David's open letter, Steve's efforts to arrange a meeting with Filofax, and the opinions and suggestions of Philofaxy readers, I'm dissappointed that Filofax appears to have successfully avoided addressing most of the questions put to them. I'm not surprised, because that is part of what modern PR is all about, but I've been looking forward learning the outcome of this meeting and now feel that the only way things are going to change is if Filofax ends up with new owners, who recognise the value of such an iconic brand, and start listening to their customers opinions, rather than skillfully deflecting them.

Tim (2012-12-03 08:03:10)

Well done Neil - your last paragraphs sums it up very well.

I suspect that, whilst the new owners may launch a "heritage" range and improve quality generally, it will also drastically cull the range and prune the different sizes. Personally, I think that would be a good thing if it results in a focus of minds. Others may disagree.

I'm sure we all also say thanks to those who have given their time (and expense) to secure and attend this meeting.

Neil (2012-12-03 08:08:20)

Hi David,

I agree with everything you say, but iconic brand leaders (and Filofax has the potential to be one of them) don't necessarily have to dumb down their products' quality to stay afloat.

Take Brooks leather bicycles, for example. They are now owned by Selle Royal, who have raised prices sufficiently to maintain the traditional manufacturing base in the UK. Prices have risen considerably, but the business is profitable, provides employent for UK workers, and boosts the UK's image abroad.

If you look at the Brooks website, they are very clever in creating the desire to "buy in" to an iconic brand, even extending to arranging for the public to visit their factory, and they're very keen on both listening and even promoting customers' opinions, that influence the business to a considerable extent. When you compare their site to the Filofax site, it's easy to understand what is so very wrong, particularly when Filofax acknowledge that their customer base is affluent, and more likely to absorb higher prices through impulse purchases driven by the sort of brand desire than many companies can only dream of.

It's like decent shoes, a nice watch, the right smartphone, or even a leather bicycle saddle - there are certain

brands that don't have to dumb down their manufacturing in order to survive, and Filofax is one of those brands. If I were dropped in to shake things up, I'd start a "heritage" range, manufactured in England, preferably London, with the best leather, custom tooling, a choice of rings and pockets, a custom fill, a choice of pen loop size, and webcam coverage so the customer can see the binder being made. I'd knock em out at 400 quid and I'd have a waiting list within days, from all over the world, especially Japan and the States. The Far Eastern filofaxes should be made out of good quality man made materials and the "pleather" should be phased out. The "heritage" leather and functional ranges would create an easy distinction, commercially. I'd keep the current, thinner paper, but emphasise the benefits of being able to get more pages into a binder, perhaps for travelling, and immediately acknowledge the quality issue by offering 90gsm Clairefontaine paper in all formats.

Continuous global prosperity based on growth is now mathematically impossible as we enter an era of increasingly scarce and expensive energy, but iconic brands will still do well. Why? Because as we inevitably end up buying less "stuff", the desire to buy in to "quality", and the urge to "display" affluence through the items we own, particularly with items that we use on a daily basis, will inevitably increase for those that can afford it.

Filofax are missing out.

Neil (2012-12-03 08:34:23)

Thanks Tim - I don't post very often, but I've obviously felt the urge to say some very forthright things today. I agree that thanks need to go to everyone who contributed to making this meeting happen, including the Filofax representatives themselves. They were under no obligation to hold a meeting, so fair play to them for playing along, even if they did manage, at least from what I've read, from answering many of the questions put to them.

Neil (2012-12-03 09:41:12)

Just to clarify, when I mean "rubbish" I mean rubbish if you're using a fountain pen. Filofax paper is fine for most other types of pen.

What gets me is all this nonsense about absorption. The paper just isn't suitable for fountain pen ink, even the 90gsm cotton cream. It's not just the paper weight, because there's plenty of paper at 90gsm, or even down to 80gsm, that is fine with fountain pen ink. Filofax will probably be aware that there's a huge amount of discussion on this topic and they must be losing a fortune in sales as people use the power of the internet to share their home grown paper exploits, that completely avoid buying any paper from Filofax at all, so why didn't they answer the "fountain pen" question properly?

I use a lot of Filofax paper, perhaps 2,000 sheets per year, because I don't want to fuff around with cutting and hole punching and my Filofaxes are only used as aids to getting things done (I use Rhodia notebooks and a fountain pen to record things for posterity), but there must be many Filofax users who'd really like to be able to use fountain pen ink who simply won't be satisfied with vague references to paper absorption. If anyone from Filofax reads this, as I'm sure they will, just sort it out, or carry on watching as more and more users make their own arrangements, by cutting their own paper and printing their own templates! If Filofax don't really want to promote their paper products, and would rather sell an endless stream of "chique" binders to followers of the fickle fashion market, then fair enough, but relatively high price of Filofax paper should be enough to cater for customers who want to use their fountain pens.

David Popely (2012-12-03 09:51:34)

My, you've really got the Ornerly Bug today haven't you :)

Neil (2012-12-03 10:44:36)

David, you're right.

I was rather hoping to learn that there might be a nod towards printing on demand, perhaps some clarification about the rumour a return to manufacturing in the UK, an opening up of the insert archives, maybe a resolution to the ring mechanism problems, and perhaps even fountain friendly paper. And, since their market research shows that 75 % of their customers are women, they must also realise that 25 % of their customers are men, so I was hoping for some news about some products aimed at us blokes.

Clearly Daivid, despite everyone's admirable efforts, I was expecting too much, lol.

Storm Bunny (2012-12-03 10:51:06)

If I may say so, I don't really like their reply to the question of the hole punchers. I have a plastic hole puncher that has proven to be a nightmare when punching even a single sheet of bond paper. You must press it down too hard and often the punching mechanism doesn't cut clean but stretches the paper around it, so you end up with a really ragged look. It works wonderful on scrapbooking paper or any thicker paper you may use to make dividers, but it's terrible on regular paper.

The price is rather steep, and makes you consider seriously a one-hole puncher and two paper clips for a tenth of the price to do the job.

David Popely (2012-12-03 10:58:31)

I don't think you're expecting too much at all - like you I think print-on-demand has clearly been shown to be the way to go. Also, like you, I'd like to see at least some attempt to satisfy the male element in their customer base - but they seem to have bought into the female-oriented strategy even more than the fashion strategy itself.

We have to also bear in mind that after the Company is sold next year, all the lines of communication we've opened might come to an end - or not. If Clarendon take the whole thing over to France, we will be looking at a whole new ball game, either for better or for worse....who knows which it may be?

All in all I think the best strategy (out of a not very wide range of options) is to try to build bridges rather than burn them, certainly until we know the future of the relationships that have begun to be forged. I do know FF are watching the community here and *trying* to respond - sometimes, as we all know, corporate culture is harder to bend than individual willingness to help will allow for - but I think they deserve a) a chance, and b) to be carefully watched for real, substantive responses. None of us expected everything to change as from the date of last week's meeting, but maybe over a period of time, with sustained effort, we can effect something better than what we have now.....

icclewu (2012-12-03 11:23:15)

After reading the comments, I must say I find some of them a little harsh. Obviously this is just a brief round up of what was discussed at the meeting, and I think people should give Filofax time now to go over things and make their changes.

David Popely (2012-12-03 11:24:50)

I think that's what we are all working and hoping for. You won't ever get someone you've offended to help you out.....fact.

Neil (2012-12-03 11:27:05)

David, I totally agree with everything you say.

I certainly don't want to contribute to the burning of bridges. Filofax seems to have a good relationship with this site, and I was tempted to have my rant on my own blog instead of on here, but I'm passionate enough about the Filofax brand and the usefulness of its products to justify owning several of them. And I've always found Filofax staff to be very helpful, and their warranty service to be excellent.

I'm just guessing that many people agree with what I'm saying, even if not everyone has the testicular fortitude to make such comments public, and I'm hoping that these comments will be seen as constructive. I'm sure that Filofax, if they read this, will appreciate that my views are my own personal opinions are just that - personal opinions.

David Popely (2012-12-03 11:30:37)

Hi Neil

I'm sure they will appreciate that now that you've said it!

However, I don't think it's that helpful to suggest that anyone who doesn't express the views you've stated is suffering from a lack of spine :) There may be those who genuinely want to go about this another way....just a thought....

As a group we are trying to effect some change here, on a corporate entity which we have no stake in other than as customers. It's going to take time, but if we stick at it I'm confident we can get there :)

Anna (2012-12-03 11:35:30)

I find it nearly impossible to use the steel hole punch made for A5 filofaxes. You have to press SO HARD to punch the series of holes in just one or two sheets of paper that there's a danger of breaking both wrists. I have to stand up to press down on the punch. think I paid £30 or so for this so I'm really disappointed. I no longer have a receipt for it but it came from City Organiser so I might take it back and ask them if I'm doing something wrong...

Neil (2012-12-03 12:29:43)

David, I take your point and I appreciate and respect the views of others. I certainly didn't want to incinuate that people were spineless, I merely pointed out that, as in most situations, there is often someone who is willing to make a strong point, and this is certainly not a criticism of anyone who chooses to remain silent.

I don't agree, however, about having no stake apart from as customers, and I'll use the "Brooks" example if I may. The pressure from customers and commentators convinced Selle Royal to go upmarket, allowing manufacturing to be carried out in the UK, not only helping our balance of payments but also giving the UK some extra kudos in the international market. So, as a UK tax payer, I'd say that means that the success or demise of Filofax as a brand, with it's close traditional associations with the UK, has an impact on both me and everyone else here in the UK in some small, but not cumulatively insignificant, way over time. We all have an interest, or stake, in businesses, even if we're not directly the customers of those business.

The important thing, in my humble opinion, is that if there is mutual benefit, between the commercial interests of a company, the company's customers and, equally importantantly, society as a whole, then that company ought to be keen to consider all opinions coming their way, no matter how radical. Because, ultimately, just one radical suggestion could make the difference between success and failure for certain businesses that are struggling stay afloat in a dwindling market.

kanalt (2012-12-03 12:53:30)

It sounds like the meeting went well. Just a comment on including Philofaxy in further testing/comments/etc. I hope they include countries outside of the UK for this as well. In the US, we don't hear anything from Filofax US. They used to have their own Facebook page but it was never updated, then they merged (as far as I can tell) with the UK page. While I've always had positive experiences with Filofax US customer service (when needing to return or exchange something), the US branch of the company doesn't reach out to their customers in any other way. I'd love to see more of a presence here from the company. I don't know if its like that in other countries, but in the US, we pretty much piggy back on the UK branch, which is fine, seeing as its a UK company. But I'd love it if they would reach out to the US more. Just my option, of course. :-)

David Popely (2012-12-03 13:06:17)

You're absolutely right, of course. Let's hope Filofax, either present or future, are open to this input, because the world truly is flat now, with social media being what it is, and they're going to have to co-operate with their customers to succeed.....

Amy @PatchworkHome (2012-12-03 13:11:39)

Oh the irony, I just tried to use the contact us form on the Filofax UK site to complain about my ring issues & discoloration to the leather of my Finsbury & the website goes down as soon as I hit send!

Jotje (2012-12-03 13:16:27)

To be honest, I also completely agree with Neil's last paragraph. I find the summary of the meeting sounds rather disappointing. For example, about the paper quality: how comes, Germany, Scandinavia and France are able to find a decent paper supplier, but UK isn't? May I suggest that Filofax UK uses the Scandinavian paper supplier? I find their regular off-white paper is fountain pen friendly, as long as you stay away from extremely wet inks ...! Also disappointed by the lack of response to the (in my opinion very big) lack of tabbed months option, that would let us interleave weekly pages. Almost all the supplier can do this?!

And on Flatability: there's no way you can teach every stiff organiser to lay flat. Like the Personal Classic or Finsbury. Never Ever!

I appreciate that Filofax took the time to have a meeting with Philofaxy. Now let's just wait and see if things will indeed change for the better.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-03 13:52:26)
Gosh Neil -I'm with you on this. Great ideas.

Neil (2012-12-03 14:05:17)

Jotje - your information about paper from Scandanavia is really interesting. I didn't realise the Filofax paper came from different paper mills, depending on what country customers are in.

Maybe a Filofax dealer in this country could import Scandinavian paper as a bulk shipment, and then use their normal mail order channels to distribute this fountain pen friendly paper to customers in the UK.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-03 14:05:19)
Gosh Neil -I'm with you on this. Great ideas.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-03 14:18:13)

If I was to wade in here ... I totally understand where David P is coming from - most progress will come from collaboration, and this is difficult if one party feels attacked or under pressure. However I also feel that Neil has a point and some of the issues SEEMED to have been brushed off with platitudes. Having said that, minutes of meetings rarely convey feelings and emotion so it is hard for us to understand the intent behind the words. I think it would be fair to give this some time (say six months) then revisit to see if progress has been made in terms of relationships. We can't expect Filofax to take on board all our ideas and suggestions - it is after all their business - but it would be nice to see our feelings and ideas being considered. Many of us using Filofax products either run our own businesses or work in a senior capacity in one, so we understand business pressures, but we also know that customers are our life blood. It takes a lot of hard work to gain a customer and a moment to loose them. Filofax are lucky that their customers are often for life, so I trust they will factor this into their deliberations. I'm guessing the meeting has given them plenty to think about as well.

Steve Morton (2012-12-03 17:20:17)

Hello All

Thank you for all your comments today, I've not been keeping a low profile on purpose, I've been out some the day dealing with the French admin system to sort out my continued health cover here!

Can I just add to your observations, we did not present the document that Kate prepared to Filofax before the meeting. If you think their answers seem very prepared then I suspect they have been following the blog closely in the weeks after the Open Letter was published in various places.... well wouldn't you?

I don't have an issue with this, we are an open site after all and I welcome everyone to come and take a look and to contribute too.

Whilst they appear to have 'deflected' some of our observations/complaints I wasn't expecting a complete answer to everything we presented them with on the day. The document after all ran to 3 pages.

It's not however over on that first visit through it. We will be revisiting the document and expanding on some of the points to make them better understood, with examples for instance.

I will be calling for your help on this in due course. An example is the 'peeling Classics' May be they are now given a different coating. But I'm sure I've seen a blog posting which we have linked to that showed clear evidence of a plastic clear coating. But this one might have been several years old. The Classic has been around at least 10 years.

I'm sure some of our quality observations come down to 'they aren't designed like that'.... "no but what we are sometimes seeing in customers hands varies with the design"

I've experienced this myself with my infamous 25mm A5 Malden... the catalogue showed 30mm, I thought it was printing error at first, but no a whole batch of them had been fitted with 25mm rings not 30mm rings. FF UK were very gracious and exchanged it for me.

Nothing will change over night... because of the lead times on the production of things the new 2013 range will be announced soon... the 2014 range is just being finished off in design terms so this could be quite a long haul, but I'm a patient guy I don't mind sticking with it, working with you all to collect your ideas and wishes together and translating these in to some sort of formulated plan to pass to Filofax.

We have established some good contacts in the customer service department as well as the marketing and design department. The CEO is also aware of our existence. So they are listening that is for sure.

Please be patient folks with Christmas just around the corner as well, we are entering the usual 'silly season' when

people aren't always at their desks etc etc.
Please don't stop the comments coming.
Steve

Neil (2012-12-03 18:30:06)

Thanks for the kind comment, Alison. I've got another 50 ideas that could make Filofax, their customers, and UK tax payers, very happy indeed, but if they want to know how to create the sort of business that generates midnight queues outside stores they'd have to buy me a couple of beers, lol.

Yu (2012-12-04 14:23:15)

Well... I was very confused why people talked about "bad paper quality" back when I was just using the standard "[insert year] bundle"-pack bought here in Sweden. Then I ordered some new inserts from the UK site because I was sick of "only" being able to buy lined paper in the stores. That's right: the only blank paper one can buy in stores is the really white one (crap quality). MAN was there a difference! I've been grumbling about bad paper quality ever since.

I use the cotton cream diary inserts because they are unlined, but seriously: the pens bleed through the paper/lots of show through and I can't use any highlighter except for the yellow one. On Swedish/Danish/Norwegian standard paper I can use whatever color I want - even purple! And I can use whichever fountain pen ink I want. I'm not saying the paper is perfect, because it's not. But I don't have to worry about which pen to use in my Filofax. If only the design wasn't so ugly... *sigh*

/end rant

Sorry. I know I've ranted about this before. >.<;

Yu (2012-12-04 14:33:02)

It sounds like you established some good contacts and that the meeting went well. I am also aware that these meeting notes cannot possibly have covered all of the meeting (and so - as some have noted - some of the answers give the impression that the Philofaxy community was "brushed off"), so I will wait a few months before I comment any further on this. ^_^

Neil (2012-12-04 17:16:33)

In fairness to Filofax, they recently kindly supplied me with cotton cream samples in a variety of sizes, for test purposes, and I posted a video on Youtube that showed only a small amount of show-through, and virtually no bleed-through, using a Lamy medium nib and Skrip ink (which was a fair test of the paper). I also demonstrated that the Filofax paper appeared to be visually more consistent in its construction than paper used by Moleskine, another leading brand whose paper quality has been discussed at length, by users wishing to use fountain pen ink. I also argued the point that one of the benefits of using a fairly lightweight grade of paper was the fact that more sheets could be fitted into each binder, enhancing the portability of what is, after all, a portable system, and that one can't have it all one's way.

However, given the very reasonable assumption that a significant percentage of filofax users may be keen to find a source of paper that is compatible with fountain pen use, and the possibility that Filofax may already be supplying such paper, albeit to countries other than the UK, I would certainly be keen to have this issue clarified if at all possible.

I'm sure that meeting the needs of fountain pen users would be of mutual benefit to both Filofax and many of their customers, as has apparently been the case with a number of manufacturers of notebook systems in recent years, where certain companies have taken active steps to meet the needs of those who like to use fountain pens, and now appear to have more of a cult following than perhaps some other companies who appear to have no interest in catering for fountain pen users.

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 17:32:30)

Neil

I'm not a regular fountain pen user these days. But what brands of paper would you recommend that work to an acceptable level with typical fountain pen/ink combination that represents in paper terms good value for money too?

If we can come up with some brands and tests, we can show Filofax exactly what we are after when compared to what they are offering at the moment either their white (or slightly off white now) paper, and cotton cream paper.
Thanks
Steve

Josh (2012-12-04 20:35:27)

Right, I agree that it's difficult to read the full impact of what was said from a written minutes. But I also assume that the folks at Filofax approved the publication of these minutes, so they are essentially conveying what Filofax wants us to know.

I would like to highlight my appreciation for Steve, Anita, and Tracy for their time and travel and for acting as our ambassadors.

In many ways, the summary above does make one angry. It seems entirely that Filofax has largely brushed us off or simply failed to answer the questions. As pointed out by Neil, this is not unexpected but is exasperating. While I realize that Filofax does not have the most expensive ring binders and inserts available, at the price they charge there should be expectation of something sturdy and reliable. Even if the product is no longer designed to last for decades, one should be able to get a year or two before ring mechanisms fail or finishes rub off or whatever.

I think it's rather sad that Filofax has chosen to not properly embrace this as a watershed moment when they can look to seriously rethink some of their strategy. Instead, it seems that they intend to continue full speed ahead on their predetermined brand strategy.

If things got so bad at my work that a group of my loyal customers demanded to have a meeting with decision makers, heads would roll!

Neil (2012-12-04 21:57:09)

Steve, there are a number of paper brands that are actively targeting fountain pen users, but Clairefontaine 90gsm velum paper would blow most filofax users' breath away, and they've been milling it in France for over 70 years. It has an off-white colour that's very similar to cotton cream. It's the paper that's used in the Rhodia webnotebooks (virtually identical to Moleskine notebooks) and shouldn't be confused with the 80gsm paper found in Rhodia notepads (although their 80gsm paper is fountain pen friendly too).

I have no financial link but, if anyone reading this wants to find out what this paper is all about, there is a fantastic company called Bureau Direct in London who have been supplying me for some time. If you use a Moleskine for journaling, then the Rhodia equivalent will simply blow you away, for roughly the same price.

My suggestion to Filofax would be to retain the existing paper supply network, to control costs, and market the travelling (ie lightweight) benefits of the current product, but introduce premium Clairefontaine lines to capitalise on the potentially powerful marketing link between filofax and fountain pen use. They already have a connection with Yard O Lead and they should exploit that potential synergy.

It's important to emphasise that the current Filofax paper is very good, but not designed for fountain pen use so, in my opinion, they should stop trying to suggest that some inks and nibs may or may not be ok, and just get a move on and introduce a range of paper that is actually designed to be fountain pen friendly from the outset.

As a footnote, Steve, I quite like the paper found in "Oxford" notebooks, and the fantastic paper used in the ARC repositional notebook system, but the Clairefontaine 90gsm velum paper is the "no brainer" choice if Filofax want to do the business, in my opinion.

Steve, I do hope that Filofax will see my views as constructive, I obviously have a passion for the brand, but I remember reading once about how Messers Marks and Spencer, just starting out with their market stall, kept looking at their wares from the front (ie the customers' side of the stall), to see how they could constantly improve their ability to attract customers.

I'd like to think that Filofax were taking a look occasionally from our side of their "stall".

janet (2012-12-05 05:39:37)

Interesting comments about Scandinavia - they have some really good inserts here all in nice cream paper, even for the A5s. I have posted three sets of inserts to different countries now - all users who are willing to put up with the Swedish just to get a good layout and useful inserts.

Also in Sweden there is a dedicated Filofax for teachers with fantastic refill packs. I could not function without it. Why can't the UK do something like that? There is demand for it, surely?

Neil (2012-12-05 09:27:36)

Some good points, Josh.

I think one of the key points that Filofax may wish to consider, is not to be afraid of making binders that are of good enough quality to past a lifetime. There are plenty of brands that make "lifetime" products, who find that buyers just keep on buying.

Neil (2012-12-05 09:29:25)

Some good points, Josh.

I think one of the key points that Filofax may wish to consider, is not to be afraid of making binders that are of good enough quality to past a lifetime. There are plenty of brands that make "lifetime" products, who find that buyers just keep on buying.

Neil (2012-12-05 09:32:19)

As an example, just because I like to ride a bicycle of a quality good enough to last a lifetime, doesn't mean that I don't want to buy another bike.

The reality is... i've got 73!

LJ (2012-12-05 13:35:41)

I thought I was just special in my shocking inability to punch holes with one of those, there does seem to be a technique to master :o)

LJ (2012-12-05 13:55:38)

Thanks for arranging and going to the meeting on behalf of the whole group, it sounds like they're listening - obviously it'll take time, but we're heading in the right direction.

One minor point though regarding the answers that were given, a bit picky maybe, but when it comes to items that I spend a fair amount on I feel I have the right to be a bit picky... the A5 Pennybridge doesn't cut it as a slimline A5 filofax despite the 20mm rings. It is an FF/iPad combi. I may feel the need to get one at some point (possibly for work), but I wouldn't be using it as a traditional filofax as it would simply not be that practical. Can you imagine travelling to work on the train with the intention of doing some planning on the way... now can you imagine the feelings of the person in the seat next to you as he/she basically has to have ypur iPad on his/her lap so you can write anything. It's probably great to use at your desk, or to get your things from A to B, but for planning on the move... really? Real A5 filofaxes with 20mm rings would be perfect please Filofax :o)

Kate (2012-12-13 05:43:45)

What is in the teacher refill? Could you post pictures, perhaps?

Kate (2012-12-13 05:44:57)

What sort of pages do the Swedish teacher refill packs contain? I'd love to see pictures - I print my own teacher inserts and I'm always looking for ideas.

12 Days of Christmas - Day 3 (2012-12-03 07:48) - Steve Morton



[1]

Filofax UK have said Sorry... well I didn't receive the original code but whatever I will forgive them for that.....

We're sorry the code we sent you this morning is not working! Please use the code below for 20 % off all organisers. We've extended the code too, to give you extra shopping time.

Simply use code **SORRY3** at the checkout

Expires 5/12/12 9.29am ■< how precise is that!!!!

So get [2]shopping... all commission earned via links to [3]Filofax UK are donated to, [4]Chimwemwe, no I can't pronounce it either... but it's an [5]excellent cause which you have contributed to already this year through shopping on [6]Filofax UK Let's boost the total even more. So go on... treat yourself or a friend...

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-v2o9Lz0Y9p0/ULyfRR0bsrI/AAAAAAAA0SQ/dqa0VSIYbI/s1600/273465506.jpg>
2. <http://tidd.ly/eec2f6e2>
3. <http://tidd.ly/eec2f6e2>
4. <http://www.chimwemwe.net/>
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/08/who-and-what-is-chimwemwe.html>
6. <http://tidd.ly/eec2f6e2>

Emma Hancock (2012-12-03 08:46:21)
That compact pennybridge is so mine!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-12-03 11:30:46)
Chim wem way
And a huge ZIKOMO (thank you!) for all your support. It really does mean a lot!
Tionana (see you later...)
Amanda

Steve Morton (2012-12-03 11:38:45)
Zikomo !!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-12-03 12:32:42)
Ha ha - you'll get to learn some Chichewe yet!

Web Finds - 4 December 2012 (2012-12-04 00:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from around the internet.

1. [1]2013 will be a-ma-zing with these workbooks!!! - We really didn't need another Filofax blog
2. [2]It Began As Pure Lust... - Thoughts and Exploration
3. [3]Wer viel fragt, kriegt viel Antwort - Filomaniac
4. [4]Filofax M2 - turning the M2 into a really useful bit of kit. - Filofax Philosophy
5. [5]my filofax week #33 - Paper Lovestory
6. [6]How to print a custom page - Filofaximile
7. [7]Back in a Pocket Filofax - Lady Tamlynn
8. [8]Keeping Miss. Kendal - Filofaximile
9. [9]A goodie box!!!! :D - Lime Tree
10. [10]A Christmas Gift Guide For Her - Modern Musings

11. [11]Filofax Saved My Life! - Glossette
12. [12]Time to Get Back to Work! - Kiwi Paper Addict
13. [13]The gift of giving A Filofax - Monica Luis
14. [14]My new Filofax! - Stickers. Stationary and Saving \$
15. [15]Day 4: The personal experiment - The Crazy Suburban Mom
16. [16]compact osterley: blog planner - Paper Lovestory
17. [17]Filofax spot - Pride, It leaves you hollow
18. [18]Finally! Tabbed Inserts for the Compact - Well Planned Life
19. [19]Planner Fail? - Paper Pens Ink
20. [20]In praise of...the internet - This Bug's Life
21. [21]Macht hoch die Tür... - Filo-Manie
22. [22]My week 26Nov - 2ndDec - Filofaximile
23. [23]Making Monday – Filofax - The Yarn Yard
24. [24]Filofax confession - From down the well

Here are the latest Filofax videos from around the internet:

IFRAME: [25]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/aiCUGdqB1oY?rel=0>

IFRAME: [26]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/7b7mZPp79XM?rel=0>

Enjoy.

1. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/11/2013-will-be-ma-zing-with-these.html>
2. <http://www.thoughtsandexploration.com/2012/11/it-began-as-pure-lust.html>
3. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/12/wer-viel-fragt-kriegt-viel-antwort.html>
4. <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-m2-turning-m2-into-really.html>
5. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/12/my-filofax-week-33.html>
6. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/how-to-print-custom-page.html>
7. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/12/back-in-pocket-filofax-with-some.html>
8. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/keeping-miss-kendal.html>
9. <http://www.limetreefruits.com/2012/12/a-goodie-box-dhtml>
10. <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.fr/2012/12/a-christmas-gift-guide-for-her.html>
11. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/12/01/filofax-saved-my-life/>
12. <http://kiwipaperaddict.blogspot.com/2012/12/time-to-get-back-to-work.html>
13. <http://mluisblog.blogspot.fr/2012/12/the-gift-of-giving-filofax.html>
14. <http://stickersstationaryandsaving.blogspot.fr/2012/11/my-new-filofax.html>
15. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/12/day-4-personal-experiment.html>
16. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/12/compact-osterley-blog-planner.html>
17. <http://clareio.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-spot.html>
18. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/12/finally-tabbed-inserts-for-compact.html>
19. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/12/planner-fail.html>
20. <http://thisbugslife.com/2012/12/02/in-praise-of-the-internet/>
21. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/12/macht-hoch-die-tur.html>
22. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/my-week-26nov-2nddec.html>
23. <http://theyarnyard.co.uk/blog/2012/12/03/making-monday-filofax/>

24. <http://downthewell.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-confession.html>
25. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/aiCUGdqB1oY?rel=0>
26. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/7b7mZPp79XM?rel=0>

Gail W (2012-12-04 04:37:52)
Wow these are early today, nice one! x

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 04:41:54)
I originally thought I was going to be out most of today, ie no time to add any more during the day, so last night I finished off and added all the ones that had been published up until I shutdown for the night and set it to publish early this morning(my time)

Went to my first appointment first thing this morning, instead of waiting 30 minutes or so, we were whisked straight in and everything went like clockwork... typical! But I will be out most of this afternoon, so in reality there's only a few hours worth not included, but they are flowing in to Saturday's instead!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-04 09:54:57)

Nice. While you were making record time, I had a doctor's appointment yesterday and sat in the exam room for an hour and 15 minutes. Wow! Good thing I had a book to read or I would have been irritated. But it sure did mess up my schedule.

Natalie B. (2012-12-04 16:24:10)

Love your blog, so many great things to read here, super community....fab resource!
Thank you so much for mentioning my Youtube video, I appreciate it greatly.

x

Natalie

www.marigoldsloft.blogspot.com

Free For All Tuesday No. 96 (2012-12-04 00:30) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have.
So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypH0Yfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

Mani (2012-12-04 06:24:59)

Can someone, who uses a pocket filo please tell me if the pocket sized city maps are readable/useable?And are they up to date? I want a London and Paris map but but the shops near me only have personal size maps.

PS:this is my first time posting in FFAT since I fell head over heels with filofax about a year ago...the community and people here are amazing!

Mani (2012-12-04 06:30:51)

And a suggestion to Filofax,(Steve please forward this to the filofax people when you meet them next)
More Maps!!! The filofax map selection at the moment is tiny and I know the smartphones have all the apps to get you anywhere,but a lot of the times in certain areas there are signal issues not to mention battery drain...I know there are maps of all kinds out there...but when you are a filofax user,(and im sure there are others here who will understand),you want to stick everything in your filo:)

natalie (2012-12-04 06:35:21)

Is it just me, or does anyone else find the Philofaxy blog very slow to load?
I've tried it on two different browsers and it makes no difference, still very slow. Other blogs on the blogger platform seem OK.
I'm not sure why this should be. I know it's quite a big archive now, but even so it seems strange.

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 06:38:16)

I suspect it's where it's reading in the various things in the sidebar from other sources, such as Facebook.
Please don't suggest swapping to Wordpress... been there and tried it... nightmare!
Steve

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 06:40:52)

I will pass it on.. but I cheat and print off maps from the internet from say Google Maps or similar and punch the sheets and pop them in my organiser. A3 ones go in to an A5 quite nicely...
<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/want-to-use-bigger-pages-in-your-a5-its.html>

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 06:46:25)

I've altered the code on the Facebook plug-in to not show the faces it seems snappier now without it..
Steve

natalie (2012-12-04 07:26:59)

I suspect that the animated HUGE Moo advert isn't helping.
Is there a static one which could be used instead?
Can help with Wordpress if you need it.

Cheryl (2012-12-04 10:54:12)

Yes the site has been loading very slowly for the past couple of weeks but I thought it was my browser (though other sites seemed to be fine). However today it popped up straight away with no hesitation. Whatever you did worked. Thanks! :)

Babs (2012-12-04 10:54:56)

Maybe try an adblocker? I won't use a browser without one and therefore don't see any ads (Moo or otherwise) on Philofaxy. It loads fine for me.

Howard (2012-12-04 11:33:41)

I think the embedded YouTube videos are slow to load. Especially if there are a lot of them, as sometimes happens with the Web Finds.

Emma Gre (2012-12-04 11:49:52)

I've planned out and created my new diary for 2013 but haven't got round to printing it yet because I'm not sure what is the best thing to do. Usually I print my inserts on the blank filofax paper but it's not very good double sided and wanted something a little thicker. So basically my question is what do people use if they don't use the normal filofax paper and how do you cut it all down to size?

Tonya (2012-12-04 12:14:30)

Can anyone tell me how to print one month please? I bought my first Filofax a few days ago and need to print December but when I tried it came out wrong, the reverse side was upside down! Not very good at this so would appreciate any advise, many thanks.

Anna (2012-12-04 13:33:31)

I'm in the UK - I have recently made a mistake in buying online a Compact Malvern zip (Ochre)! It's lovely but I knew immediately that it's not for me. I should have probably returned it (to Filofax France) but it seemed too much of a faff at the time (October). I'd like to sell it (hopefully to someone here in the philofaxy community) but I don't want to do EBay or Paypal. Any ideas?

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 13:34:38)

Ad-spot.... look at the link at the top of the blog...

Carla H. (2012-12-04 13:39:43)

Does anyone know if the Rouge Malden sold on Filofax France is the same as the Crimson Malden? I really would like to purchase it as I've always wanted wanted a Crimson Malden but I wasn't sure if the reds were the same or at least similar to each other. I am even willing to pay the crazy shipping prices as I live in the US.

Anna (2012-12-04 13:40:54)

Oh, thanks Steve! I'm not sure of my way around yet... I don't quite understand why some entries on there are dated as posted in the future?? Hope I'm not being dim...

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 13:42:05)

That is the removal date, an advert is posted for 8 weeks and the date indicates to me when to remove it from the page. Nothing else!

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 13:43:27)

Yes it is the Crimson Malden lots of us love them... including myself!

natalie (2012-12-04 14:00:08)

I agree, and if I am looking at Philofaxy on my iPad, they make the browser crash when I click to play them so I just don't watch them on it :o(

Butanben (2012-12-04 14:03:49)

I cheat too!! Transport for London,TFL, do some great large print tube maps, which can be folded into a Filofax.Much easier to read than the normal print size. Free on their site. I usually take an A- Z with me. Most of the roads I need don't change, so battered old faithful of the A-Zs comes along with me.

Carla H. (2012-12-04 14:12:34)

Thanks, Steve! Made my purchase already. Can't wait to receive it.

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 14:29:59)

Just tried them on my iPad and they play ok, not sure what the problem might be

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 14:31:47)

Are you manually duplexing the paper or is your printer doing it?

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 14:35:48)

Natalie

Knowledge of Wordpress isn't an issue, converting 1700 posts and 21000 comments is! When you do the import if it succeeds then the links are still to the old site, likewise the photos are only linked not imported. It would be a

long job to do it. I have tried it...

Steve

Tonya (2012-12-04 14:52:58)

My printer is doing it.

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 15:10:19)

Ok change it to only print single sided, then print odd pages then feed the paper back in the correct way around and print the even pages. If it has a manual feed try use that. You might have to let the paper cool down if it is a laser printer before you print the other side.

Steve

Paul B (2012-12-04 16:36:12)

Thought it was my iPad! I haven't been able to watch videos by clicking the embedded thumbnails, it closes safari. Thought it might be because I have an iPad 1. Ended up copying and pasting links into YouTube app. Downside is I watch a lot fewer as its time consuming.

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 16:40:12)

Mines an iPad 3 if that helps. I've just checked some previous ones and they worked fine on my.

How much memory have yours got? May be the working memory is higher in later ones?

Steve

Tonya (2012-12-04 16:52:45)

Ok, will have a go tomorrow, thanks

Amanda Marie (2012-12-04 17:06:32)

I currently use a Quo Vadis Journal 21 but I would like to use those inserts with a filofax cover. Is this possible? What size filofax would fit these pages? I hesitate to make the switch, but I love the Journal 21 paper but hate the cover with the passion of a thousand suns. I'm willing to punch holes in my refill paper. Thoughts? Thanks for your hep, this is the first time I've thought about customizing my planner and I'm a bit apprehensive.

Steve Morton (2012-12-04 17:11:26)

Hi Amanda

It should fit an A5 Filofax measure the paper size 210 x 148 mm is A5 size, and yes you will need to punch the pages to fit a Filofax.

Steve

MrNick (2012-12-04 17:47:17)

There is a known issue with Firefox and Adobe Flash player. As far as I can see the last versions of Flash which worked are 10.3 and 11.2. IE is OK and Google Chrome is OK because they both use different versions of Flash. I can't read Philofaxy and many other sites with embedded video because pages just hang for long periods and Firefox becomes unresponsive. This has been happening since June and there is no universal solution but downgrading the Flash version to 10.3 or 11.2 may fix it.

industrious housewife (2012-12-04 18:24:56)

Bit late in the day, but I'm thinking about diary inserts.

I don't want to print my own inserts at the moment, so I'd like to hear about alternative ready printed Day per Page, or Day on 2 Pages?

I can think of Franklin covey and Daytimer that I've heard of, but I don't know how compatible these are with Personal sized Filofaxes.

Any thoughts?

Tim (2012-12-04 18:49:01)

Hi Amanda

Would you consider buying a Filofax Flex cover? Your Quo Vadis 21 should fit well into either or both internal slots hiding the cover but also giving you extra pockets and a pen holder etc.

I've been struggling with ring mechanism binders of late and have been tempted by Laurie's new Plannerism Planners (see link on left). I'm going to use a leather Flex as a cover (if the planner fits) with no hole punching to worry about.

If it doesn't work I'll have to dissect the planner and punch a few holes to use it with a traditional ringed binder.
Tim

Josh (2012-12-04 19:03:04)

Hello! I used DayTimer portable size pages for most of this past year. They do a day per page and a day on two pages. I used the day on two pages and was very happy with it, but eventually realized I didn't need so much space. The paper is quite thin and absorbent and some types of ink show or bleed through badly. I did not find this particularly bothersome but some people really hate it.

Franklin Covey sells a size which fits the rings in a personal size Filofax but the pages are a good bit wider and the tabs tend to stick out beyond the edge of the binder covers.

If you look here on Philofaxy, Steve kindly summarized all the various inserts available by size a bit over a year ago. For example, there are nice day per page versions in a cream color paper stock available from the Denmark and Sweden Filofax websites. The shipping may be a bit high but if it's exactly what you want it may be worth the expense! There are also QuoVadis versions available from France, or from the UK website, which fit but are not (I believe) exactly the same size as the filofax personal page. Do a search here for diary inserts. Perhaps Steve can find a way to make this very important info easier to find? If you just click on "Diary" in the tag cloud you must scroll through all the printable formats before you find these. (there I go, ever the library cataloger!)

Cheers,

Josh

Elise Seitz (2012-12-04 20:56:11)

Hi Anna, I'm mighty tempted by that compact ochre malden. I'm in Canada though. Send me an email at bonnelise@hotmail.com.

Amanda Marie (2012-12-04 22:01:08)

Thanks so much for the feedback! I am thinking I might either use my mother's old filofax or get a flex cover for Christmas. I am very appreciative of the advice.

EmmaNoey (2012-12-04 22:27:38)

Videos work on my iPad from this site . . .

EmmaNoey (2012-12-04 22:42:48)

I got my crimson pocket Malden from Filofax France . Shipping took about 10 days or so to California - not bad, although tracking didn't work for me.

Doris (2012-12-05 01:55:00)

I've been looking at an ochre compact Malden myself. (:

industrious housewife (2012-12-05 05:32:58)

Thanks Josh, I'll have a look for those.

Does the Daytimer give a full page or 2 pages for Saturday and Sunday? Most annoying thing about the Filofax versions for me.

industrious housewife (2012-12-05 06:48:48)

Been checking out your youtube, very helpful.

I'm definitely wanting a Dodopad for long-term planning and weekly goal-setting/overview, and then wanting

daily pages for to dos, planning and possibly for logging down what we've done/eaten etc.
I've been trying to keep a separate log and I'm not sure it's the most efficient way to do it.

Paul B (2012-12-05 07:20:44)
mine is 64GB wifi only, iPad 1.

Steve Morton (2012-12-05 07:22:14)

Paul

I think they increased the working memory in later models, compared to the first ones. This is different to storage memory

Steve

natalie (2012-12-05 07:59:44)

16GB iPad 1... early adopter :o)

There isn't any reason why this Philofaxy blog could stay where it is, as an archive, if you like, and a new WP blog could be set up on a hosted domain.

Philofax.com has been taken (perhaps by Philofaxy) but the .net .org and many others are available to buy.

A hosted blog gives MANY more templates than a standard blogger one too.

The wp.com ones have nasty adverts so I wouldn't bother swapping unless it was to a self hosted version.

Steve Morton (2012-12-05 08:03:33)

Natalie

I have <http://philofaxy.com/> already, it's used to host all the files and templates.

I've considered your solution before but then we end up with the blog split between two locations and that wouldn't work when it comes to searching through previous posts.

To be honest I don't see much advantage to changing, hence I would prefer to leave it as it is now... it works. There may be some small issues but the majority of people (2000 visits a day) are managing to read stuff on here without any issues.

Regards

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-12-05 08:08:32)

Right for info...

iPad 1 has 256 Mb of working memory

iPad 2 has 512 Mb

iPad 3/4 has 1 Gb

Info found here: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ipad>

That could well be causing the issues with embedded videos crashing the browser when viewing the blog.

natalie (2012-12-05 08:29:02)

Thanks Steve.

Paul B (2012-12-05 17:47:00)

Thanks Steve. I only use the iPad at weekend or convenience so while it reduces the number of videos I can watch it's only a temporary problem.

Josh (2012-12-06 11:37:21)

Yes, the DT pages do give you a full page or full two pages at the weekend. I too thought this was very important but looking back I see that most of those weekend spreads are almost totally empty!

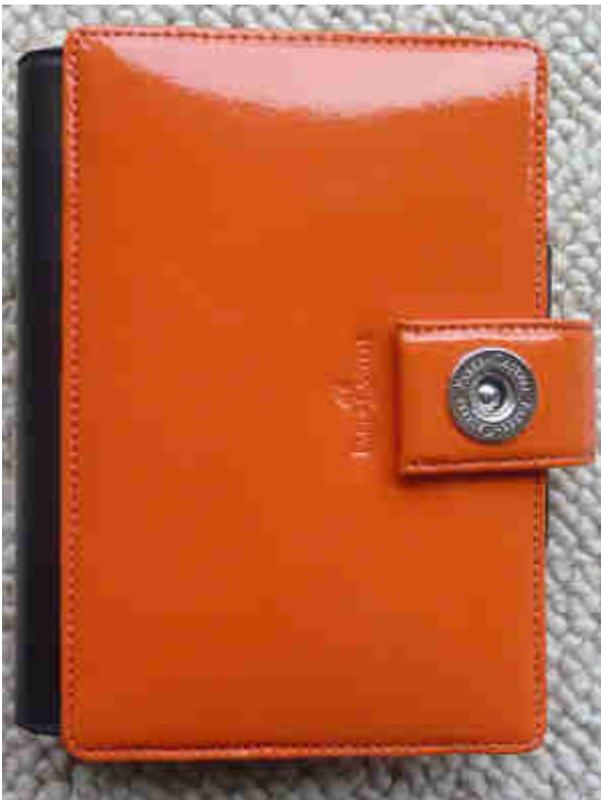
LJ (2012-12-08 01:18:24)

I don't have any problems loading the Philofaxy blog - apart from the days when my internet connection is generally being a pain.

Faber-Castell organiser review (2012-12-05 00:00) - Anita Lim

In this previous [1]post, Steve discussed other brands of ring bound organisers and I found that I hadn't heard of most of them. As mentioned on my own blog, I have recently agreed with [2]Cult Pens to write some reviews for them and I jumped at the chance to receive a Faber-Castell organiser to cover for Philofaxy. [3]Wikipedia says that the company is one of the world's largest manufacturers of pens, pencils, office and art supplies, as well as high-end writing instruments and luxury leather goods. I'd only heard of the brand due to browsing lovely pens and pencils online (normally out of my budget range) and had no idea that they made organisers as well. More details can be found [4]here about the company. Thank you to Cult Pens for supplying this review sample free of charge for me to post about.

This model is the pocket organiser in orange patent Italian calfskin leather, and it also comes in other colours and [5]sizes. The first thing that I noticed when removing the organiser from the box is the colour! I love the intense orange, but I'm aware that it might not be to everyone's tastes and it may be more aimed at female customers.



[6]



[7]

I was trying to think of how to explain exactly what the colour is like and then remembered we had some oranges:



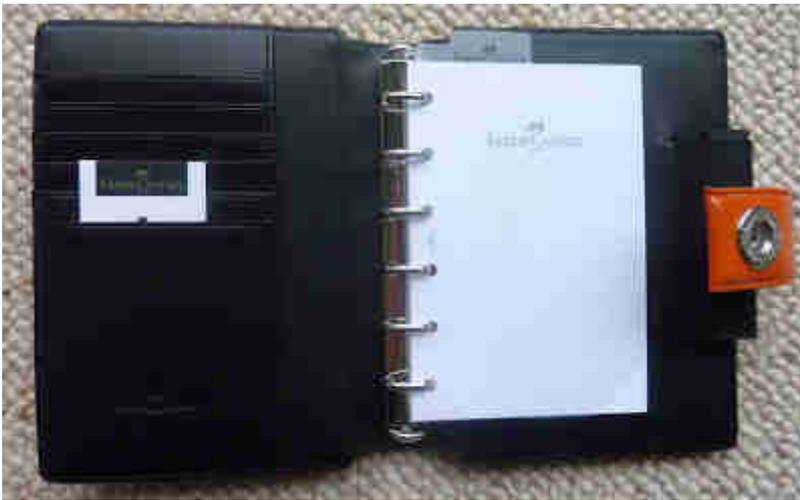
[8]

These organisers lie flat out of the box as the spine is made from a separate stitched piece, and I think this is something that Filofax could consider more in their design process as 'flatability' makes a big difference as you're all aware. The brand name is embossed into the leather and on the press stud, and the clasp feels bigger to me than on most Filofaxes, but I like it. The spine and the interior are made from non-patent black leather, and I like the contrast as it may have been a bit much all in bright orange. On the left there are six credit card pockets (cards fit in vertically) with a full-length pocket behind. and the left-hand side has one pen loop which will accept full-size pens! (yes, you read that right)



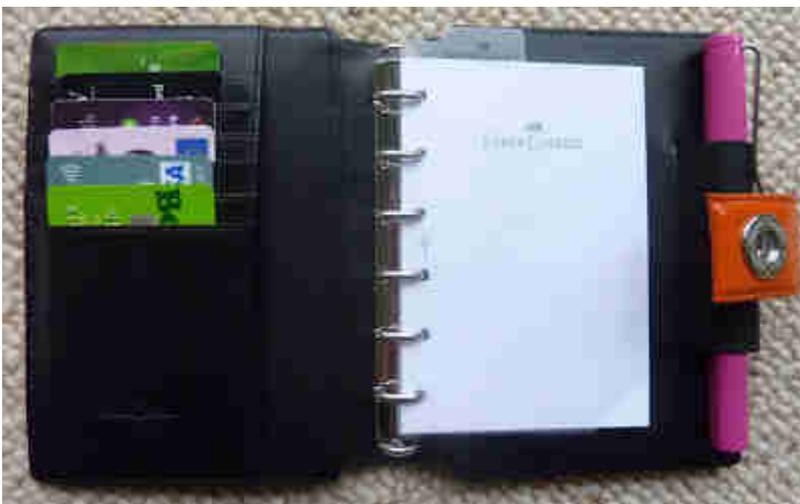
[9]

One thing that struck me when opening this was that the paper size seems small in comparison to the size of the organiser. I think this is as more space is needed to accommodate the larger sized pen loop. For a comparison, the dimensions are 110mm x 155mm, compared with a pocket Malden at 115mm x 147mm.



[10]

And onto that pen loop... I searched through all my pens, trying different ones in turn and they all fit including my Lamy Safari fountain pen! This may be a bit of a revelation for any owners out there trying in vain to squeeze their favourite pen into the normal skinny Filofax loops. You can see that the extra space means that my Lamy fits well and doesn't poke out of the bottom or the top.



[11]

[12]

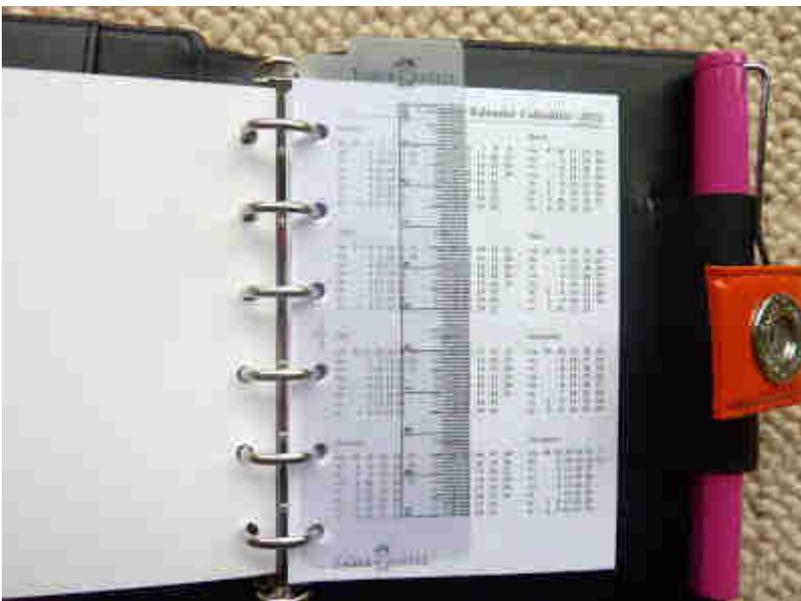


[13]



Inserts included are a transparent flyleaf, a ruler, year overview calendar, 2 pages to the month diary, address book (ruled A-Z sheets) and ruled paper.

[14]



334



[15]



[16]

I have small writing but think that 2 pages to the month would be too limiting, so I picked up a cheap Collins week on 2 pages and that looks much more usable. The paper size is 81mm x 120mm, so normal pocket Filofax refills will fit.



[17]

I could see the Faber-Castell working well as a wallet-organiser combo with the inclusion of a zip-lock envelope or pouch and maybe an additional credit card holder insert. My only concern is how well the patent leather would cope with being chucked into a bag regularly or being used on a daily basis. I like the styling of this organiser which feels modern with its simple lines, and that it lies flat out of the box and can accommodate any pen in the loop.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/ring-bound-organisers-other-brands.html>
2. <http://www.cultpens.com/index.html>
3. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Faber-Castell>
4. http://www.faber-castell.co.uk/40690/Products/Design/fcv2_index.aspx
5. <http://www.cultpens.com/acatalog/Faber-Castell-Leather-Accessories.html>
6. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-ZxNinhM2qh4/ULDqUhwWyTI/AAAAAAAAABE4/fBf3L8EcrFI/s1600/P1030753.JPG>
7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Z01W9dbX-z4/ULDqWhM1_OI/AAAAAAAAABFA/c0x5WHPMxK8/s1600/P1030754.JPG
8. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-6p35FsG-xNM/ULDsVTfxJfI/AAAAAAAAABFg/WmCR_qU7xxY/s1600/P1030781.JPG
9. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-NrhkpiZcy-E/ULDqcf1BXFI/AAAAAAAAABFQ/Enkjan03004/s1600/P1030756.JPG>
10. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-UoNptHSZHEg/ULDxxLwWFAI/AAAAAAAAABGM/zY87EvP4II4/s1600/P1030755.JPG>
11. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-xd2dVC_KEKg/ULDy5M5WwII/AAAAAAAAABGU/HWe8Z4aCWwc/s1600/P1030757.JPG
12. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Xm-hrBwHB8I/ULD0mGgK_SI/AAAAAAAAABGc/7PqDZU_D1vM/s1600/P1030760.JPG
13. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-H92Lrgqum7U/ULD0z4tqTzI/AAAAAAAAABGk/Bni0dZXhPro/s1600/P1030759.JPG>
14. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Ka55kNzka7M/ULD19MHUFXI/AAAAAAAAABGs/ZW7ND-Yt-kU/s1600/P1030761.JPG>
15. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-kwtCpXMwfEE/ULD2ZW0v2YI/AAAAAAAAABG0/G_udPj0Ycnc/s1600/P1030763.JPG
16. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-GGLk3Qm9r3s/ULD2b7pABLI/AAAAAAAAABG8/7WEpr07kfYU/s1600/P1030765.JPG>
17. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-WZ4Dc0wGw8c/ULD3k5JMD9I/AAAAAAAAABHQ/OYLxLeJq8fo/s1600/P1030767.JPG>

Paul auf Deutsch (2012-12-05 03:08:12)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Prakash Sharma (2012-12-05 03:12:37)

Thanks for this review Anita. I am really tempted by the Faber Castell organisers, mainly for the "flatability" aspect. They look great too, although I would probably go for the non-patent leather version. I was surprised to see that Filofax are now selling these in the Conduit Street store!

Alison (2012-12-05 07:11:09)

That looks lovely. gorgeous colour, will have to look into them :-)

Butanben (2012-12-05 08:46:09)

I am not normally a big fan of orange, but wow I adore this colour!!! Love the big button's style too. A very comprehensive review. Thank you. xx

janet (2012-12-05 11:05:28)

That is lovely! I love orange - my orange Finsbury is one of my absolute favourites. And the rest of it looks nice too.

janet (2012-12-05 11:14:30)

PS I would describe the colour as tangerine, if your orange is an orange orange ;)

Anita (2012-12-05 16:44:18)

You're welcome. I recently visited the Conduit Street store, but didn't have a proper look around but would have been surprised to see other brands of organiser.

Anita (2012-12-05 16:45:35)

I think I agree with you on the tangerine as my orange was quite orangey in colour :)

Prakash Sharma (2012-12-06 04:35:22)

They're hidden away in the back of a locked cabinet at the back of the shop! I guess that because the shop has entered into some sort of partnership with Faber-Castell that they sell the whole range of their products, as well as the pens etc.

Stephanie (2012-12-12 18:07:29)

I really like the way it looks, what is the paper quality like? I would love something a bit heavier than filofax refills.. everything shows through!

Six ways Filofax and Franklin Covey are different - Guest Post - Patty (2012-12-06 00:00) - Steve Morton

A big thank you to Patty from '[1]Homemakers Daily' for this guest post about the differences between Filofax and Franklin Covey.



[2]

Earlier this year I stumbled across the Philofaxy website and it changed my life! I've always loved paper planners but most of the people in my life don't share my passion. They know *I need* a paper planner but *they aren't interested*.

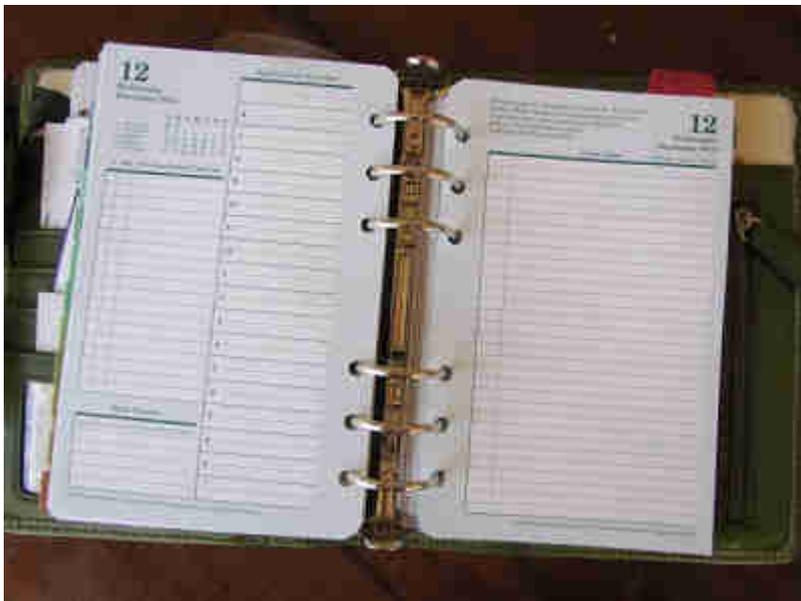
When I discovered Philofaxy, I found a community of people who LOVED paper planners the way I did. And as I read through the articles and comments, I realized that I wasn't alone!

I've been a long-time Franklin Covey user (compact, 2ppd) but have been experimenting with Filofax for several months. As I've learned more about Filofax products, I've discovered six big differences between how Franklin Covey (FC) planners are used and how Filofax (FF) planners are used.

1. The most popular format for FF planners seems to be some form of the week on two pages. For FC planners, the most popular is two pages per day. Franklin Covey does sell a lot of weekly pages these days but the day on two pages is by far the most popular.



[3]



[4]

2. Filofax planners don't come with monthly pages. If you purchase the pages, they're not tabbed and are printed back-to-back. This makes sense when you consider that Filofax users usually have a week on two pages in their binder. In that case, monthly pages aren't as important. But in a Franklin Covey planner, the monthly pages are extremely important and come with every set of pages whether the pages are weekly or daily. The calendars are tabbed and have a blank section on the front of each month for a Monthly Index and a blank section on the back for monthly tasks.



[5]



[6]

3. That brings me to the next point which is that Filofax users usually have an entire year of weekly pages in their binder (hence the reason the monthly page isn't as important). Franklin Covey users usually only have two or three months of pages at a time. When a month is complete, that month's pages are moved to a storage binder.

4. Filofax users tend to store their used pages in boxes or throw them away. Franklin Covey users store their used pages (and unused pages) in a storage binder. When the year is complete, the storage binder contains a permanent record.



[7]

5. Filofax pages are pretty plain so it gives Filofax users the freedom to personalize with color and design (which they love doing!). Franklin Covey pages are already colorful so there's no room for creativity.



[8]

6. And this is the biggest difference, I think. Since most Filofax users use weekly pages, there's not a lot of room to write anything but appointments (although I've seen pages that held a LOT of info!). So Filofax users rely heavily on the tabbed sections at the back. That's where all the good stuff is.

Franklin Covey users write nearly everything on the daily pages and use the tabbed section at the back for short-term projects or certain types of information. For example, I have my financial information in the tabbed sections. It wouldn't make sense to keep that on my daily pages. If I'm working on a project, I would put it in one of the sections. And I have reference information in one of the sections. But everything else goes on the daily page and then the important information is recorded on the Monthly Index sheet for easy future reference.

I found it interesting to see the differences between the two systems. It also helped me figure out why I was struggling to switch from Franklin Covey to Filofax. Even though the two systems look very similar, these are pretty major differences.

And thank goodness. None of us are alike and nor do we do things the same way. I love the fact that there are so many choices. We get to pick the system that works best for us.

Now . . . if I could only decide.

1. <http://homemakersdaily.com/>

2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-67VF9o_Up4U/ULdAGbNbh9I/AAAAAAAAOPY/hvok4UMgp58/s1600/Filofax+vs.+Franklin+Covey+-+Photo+1.jpg

3. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-lQUg13NgPys/ULdAI1x7FbI/AAAAAAAAOPc/GIs1-hFCjNE/s1600/Filofax+vs.+Franklin+Covey+-+Photo+2.jpg>

4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-KnEPsN_avag/ULdAI1BLg3I/AAAAAAAAOPo/UVUX4HDPqvo/s1600/Filofax+vs.+Franklin+Covey+-+Photo+3.jpg

5. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-NTGjuPspz4/ULdAKErf89I/AAAAAAAAOPs/fTZBZ1uWM2M/s1600/Filofax+vs.+Franklin+Covey+-+Photo+4.jpg>

6. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-884R5KMqmoI/ULdAK9Y4wwI/AAAAAAAAOP0/t3wHr1Seu9w/s1600/Filofax+vs.+Franklin+Covey+-+Photo+5.jpg>

7. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-uXH_8fb5mWU/ULdAL1zs0jI/AAAAAAAAOP8/TtDNHUNzJcw/s1600/Filofax+vs.+Franklin+Covey+-+Photo+6.jpg

8. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-o-dcL2FH1Y4/ULdAMrN3s1I/AAAAAAAAOQI/FFr2PLE1xUk/s1600/Filofax+vs.+Franklin+Covey+-+Photo+7.jpg>

makeupgeek (2012-12-06 00:28:27)

Filofax has a whole wack of daily pages too that you can print of from Philofaxy. They also got ones where they are in vertical columns with time slots.

Josh (2012-12-06 00:28:30)

I've tried both the DayTimer and a few different Filofax layouts. DayTimer is just like Franklin Covey; months, two pages per day, everything goes in the daily pages for the most part. I loved having the space but eventually found it was excessive and that the granularity of day-to-day planning was causing me to lose perspective and lose track of big projects. On the other hand, the filofax week on two pages simply does not give adequate space for the numerous to-do items I need to tend to on a daily basis. I prefer to have these assigned to days rather than in a separate section because I essentially "assign" them days and, occasionally, times when they will get done. If I just have a long rambling list I lose all control and have no idea what to do when or what is higher priority. Quite a disaster! My solution, which is working just fine at the moment, is to put appointments and schedule information on the week on two pages diary, and interleave a self drawn "to-do" page which has two blocks for each day, one for personal to dos and one for work to dos. There is space for about 8 action items per day, which is normally adequate. And space for several appointments to be written in along with work schedule notes and such. I'm not sure which system is superior, as you point out, we're all different.

Cheryl (2012-12-06 00:35:49)

Great post Patty. As someone who had been using FC for over 20 years and recently switched to Filofax (though I did use Day Timer, Day Runner and once in the 80's I even used a Filofax) I agree with all of your points and comparisons. At one time I probably had 20 FC binders and have tried all 4 sizes! The reason I switched from FC to Filofax is: 1) the paper was annoying me; as you said, it is very decorated. I used to enjoy that but over time I found it to be too busy for my taste. And the 'original' paper is so distasteful to me. I really dislike that shade of green (what is that???) on the white which they have not changed in 20 years. Well,, that's not completely true. It used to be more of a drab green on dull paper (almost dirty looking) and then they changed the 'original' inserts to that sort of teal green on bright white paper. It doesn't work for me! 2) My favorite size was the Classic but it got too cumbersome so I mostly used Compact size. Over time I found the width of the binders very annoying. It was too fat and chunky for most of my handbags and I was attracted to the streamlined look of the Filofax binder. 3) Though a bit crunched for room due to the narrower Filofax paper, I do prefer it over the wider FC paper. I can't really say why.

However, I DO miss the day on two page inserts which were the ONLY inserts I ever used with FC. I tried the weekly set up and that did not work for me. Although currently I am using WO2P in my Filofax, I'm thinking of purchasing Day Timer Day on 2 Pages or printing some from here. Several people have switched from Filofax to FC but I have switched from FC to Filofax and don't plan to go back. I have found my perfect binder (Personal Malden in Grey).

makeupgeek (2012-12-06 00:37:08)

I love your comparison. I was a FC user (when I used binder style agendas) before I found out about FF. I found that when I was using my FC I only used monthly and weekly pages mainly to track to-dos and appointments. I find that having a community of people who love their agenda/ organiser like here on Philofaxy I now have way more things in my FF. I have sections in there other than monthly and weekly pages. I have to say tho, no offense, some of the comparisons are generalizations. I'm not bashing your comparison its just your personal views of both agenda systems. I have used both and my views are totally different. I only have 3 months worth of weekly pages and 3 months of monthly pages in my FF in a personal Malden with 23mm rings. And I can't live without my monthly pages whether in FC or FF.

makeupgeek (2012-12-06 00:42:47)

At first I thought the week on two pages in FF would not be enough space for me to write but it seems to work out fine. I guess everyone has different preferences and things to meet their needs in terms of planning/diary. I have to say tho that Franklin Covey does have a wide range of weekly pages. When I was using FC I was using weekly pages. I know you never used FC so you don't know.

Alan Marshall (2012-12-06 00:56:36)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Jani (2012-12-06 00:57:09)

Hi Patty, like you I recently discovered Filofaxy and it has transformed my life! A couple of years back I was gifted a pocket raspberry Finsbury, but, not understanding "The Way Of The Filofax" it never got used. No more though, since discovering this site Finn has been pimped to within an inch of her life and now has siblings too! I have also been using the same system as Josh, which is working well for me at the moment. I can honestly say, I would never have thought that anyone could get so much pleasure from a bunch of pages in a binder, but I LOVE IT!!!

Alan Marshall (2012-12-06 00:57:28)

I use the WOTP Filofax, and like Josh, I insert pages for ToDo lists and the like. I find it works fine. The paper for Filofax is slightly thinner than Franklin Covey and Daytimer, which I prefer, to keep things thin in my binder, which has 11mm rings.

Alan Marshall (2012-12-06 01:07:04)

Difference #7: Franklin Covey makes a good punch that is far better than the Filofax one!

Today, I was in Laywine's, Toronto's Filofax retailer, and while waiting to talk with Peter Laywine (Hint: There will be an upcoming "Stockist in the Spotlight"!) I was comparing the Filofax Cuban Slimline with the only slightly more expensive (+15 %) L'Agenda Moderne. I'll be honest, the Parisian Company's offering won hands down. It laid flat; the Cuban did not. The Leather was more supple. It folded smaller. I probably would replace the inserts with Filofax, as I found the L'Agenda Moderne's paper a bit heavier, but fountain pen users might love it. One of Laywine's staff said that some Filofax users use the L'Agenda Moderne Inserts due to the paper.

Helen Conway (2012-12-06 02:44:03)

Think I might need a Filocovey! I use monthly pages tabbed (although I would have blank pages back to back as I have just started interleaving a monthly goal list. Then week on one page but then day on two pages for most things. You can get them direct from Filofax. I got mine from France but when I was in the Conduit street store in London last week they also had them there. The monthly is essential for overview but too small to write much other than the basics of advanced appointments. So I might simply write: Meetup London in there. The weekly pages then hold more details of events I am timetabling beyond the daily pages. So there I might write the event but also my traintimes and the name of the restaurant. I keep aout a months worth of daily pages so that info will be transferred to those later and I add in more detail that I might only know nearer the time like my shopping list and what I need to remember to take to give to other people of read on the train etc. Of course that is an entirely aspirational example as I have never made a meet up yet!!

Morag (2012-12-06 04:59:09)

Josh, I like the idea of your interleaved 'To Do' list. Do you have any pics?

Claudia Volkman (2012-12-06 07:15:40)

I also would love to see pics of this, Josh!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 10:17:13)

Great compromise, Josh. If I was using weekly pages, I would have to do something like that, too.

I do miss using weekly pages because it is nice to see the whole week at one time. One day at a time is sometimes so limiting. Sounds like you found the best of both worlds.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 10:20:50)

Cheryl: I was drawn to the smaller size of the Filofax Personal, too. The extra 1/2 inch on the compact is a definite advantage for writing room and writing comfort but it takes up a lot more space in the purse! I've recently switched to a very small purse, and in a pinch, the personal Malden will still fit. The compact FC doesn't even come close. I'm having trouble deciding between the two systems. I want to switch to FF but I'm still drawn to FC. I just can't decide.

I'm glad you've settled in and are happy with your new system.

J (2012-12-06 10:20:52)

Love it! This is exactly why I use FC pages in my Filofax Binder (a personal Malden)! I get the page space I want, with a binder I love. I know this doesn't work for everyone, but I've found the Malden's "floppiness" perfect for fitting the wider inserts. I'm using the DPP Monticello inserts this year, and will be switching to the 2DPP next year since life is getting a bit hectic!

I don't personally find the pages overdecorated- they just have the simple blue line which adds a bit of color without going over the top. Plus, MONTHLY TABBED PAGES- need I say more? Between those, a few months of daily pages, all of my cards and a tiny "etc." section for notes, I've got my perfect system :)

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 10:25:03)

It's okay if you don't agree. Most of the comparisons are generalizations, as you said. I was trying to make the switch from FC to FF and having trouble. I started analyzing the reasons why and realized there were some differences that were causing the problems for me. Neither system is better than the other. They're just different. And that's perfect because it allows us to choose what works for us. Sounds like you've settled in nicely. And I agree, it's awesome finding a community of people who loves planner as much as I do.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 10:25:51)

Awesome!!! I love what you said about your Finn being "pimped to within an inch of her life and now has siblings, too!" So funny!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 10:26:51)

I don't know about the punch issue since I don't have a FF one but I do know the FC one is cheaper! That FF one is EXPENSIVE! I have had great luck with the FC punch.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 10:27:58)

Great system! I love that -Filocovey!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 10:30:03)

Yeah - the Monticello pages aren't overly decorated. They're a nice, classic style with a bit of color but not too much. I've used those in the past.

One year I tried using the 7 Habits pages but I hated those. The edges were dark gray so you couldn't write there. I write ALL OVER my pages so I need every bit of space I can get. Those pages were awful. In fact, I abandoned them mid-year for something else.

I actually put my FC pages in the Malden but the tabs hit the edge. I'm guessing that doesn't bother you?

Carla H. (2012-12-06 12:02:08)

I'm a big fan of the week on two pages format both for FC and FF. But, what I missed most about FC when switching over to FF were the monthly tabs. I know FF has the option but it's not the same. I also like the plainness of FF's inserts (more room for cute washi tape and my own personalization!) but would like the option of the decorated inserts like FC.

kanalt (2012-12-06 12:49:10)

Hmm, based on this comparison, it seems I'm an FC type in filofax's clothing. ;-) I use Filofax products but do all the things that FC users do: I have a full year of monthly inserts, two months worth of daily pages where my to dos and appointments go, I keep my past diary inserts (though I only started that in 2009), and I don't color or design my own inserts. I like the clean, vast space that the ff inserts provide.

I used to use the week on two pages, and when I decided to switch, it took some getting used to. But the weekly pages didn't allow for all of the information I like to keep in a day. I do have master lists in my tabbed sections and in other binders (depending on what the task is), but I move an item or two to a specific day when I know I'll have time to work on it. This does mean that I have multiple lists in different places, some tasks on more than one list. But it's the best way for me to know what's a priority and what can wait.

In very general terms (because obviously, it's different for different people) but it seems that FC gears their products to a more professional level whereas Filofax gears their products for more personal use. True, some

people cross over or overlap. And some even create their own hybrids. And of course, the only thing that matters is that whatever you use works for you - but that's the joy of both products - you can make them work however you need them!

Great post!

J (2012-12-06 13:23:54)

My tabs just barely go over the edge- they are a bit battered and worn by the end of the year but I like my Filo to look used so it doesn't bother me! Plus, it is all worth it for perfect inserts in a perfect binder.

I also don't keep a pen in the back loop- I added a loop in the front of my binder, so I think that helps prevent the tabs from being crushed :)

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 14:29:00)

I agree that FC gears their products toward professionals. For years all the binders were brown, black or burgandy. It's only been in the last 10 years or so that they've included other colors. I tried to get my daughter-in-law started on FC but she hated the boring binders.

I think that what you're doing is what I want to do. I want to use Filofax but I want to use it like FC. I'm still trying to figure that out.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 14:29:39)

I've read a lot of references to Washi tape. What exactly is it?

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 14:30:17)

That would definitely help. The pen loop doesn't fit any of my pens anyway. I'll have to give that another shot.

J (2012-12-06 14:41:52)

Good Luck! I just ended up buying one of those stick on pen loops for \$2 from Staples and have it stuck on a flyleaf at the beginning of my binder- seems to be working!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 15:38:07)

I have got to go to Staples! The nearest one is about 30 minutes away in a part of town I don't get to very often. But I need to just bite the bullet and check it out. I've seen that lots of Filofaxy readers get cool things there.

Jani (2012-12-06 16:04:18)

Washi tape is a type of masking tape, it comes in loads of colours and patterns. In theory it is re-positional, but I haven't yet tried peeling it off of Filofax paper! Finn wouldn't be seen dead without a generous application to practically every page. Love your post.

Jani (2012-12-06 16:07:42)

Washi tape is a type of masking tape, it comes in loads of colours and patterns. In theory it is re-positional, but I haven't yet tried peeling it off of Filofax paper! Finn wouldn't be seen dead without a generous application to practically every page. Love your post.

MTMTE (2012-12-06 17:11:19)

This post is very timely for me, as I finally worked up the courage to dedicate myself to one diary format for 2013, and invested in the lovely Serenity Day on 2 pages by FC...I've trimmed about 8mm(?) from the punched/inner side of the pages, and repunched the pages (a mammoth task as I only have the single-hole punch....I did three months before getting bored and leaving the rest aside to do later in the year :)

I absolutely love it. It has enough space in this format to keep EVERYTHING in view and, as stated in the post, I keep a few separate sections for projects. I love the colours of the Serenity set, and whilst yes there's little room for creativity, I found myself growing tired of using my spare time to decorate/personalise [essentially replicating FC] my FF pages...it's a very time consuming hobby for someone trying to organise in order to have more free time to do real tasks.

So if you don't mind dedicating an hour or two each year to re-punching the inserts (in order to stop them sticking

out beyond your FF binder) I strongly recommend these inserts.

Karen (2012-12-06 17:54:35)

I am doing the same thing this year luckily I have a rapesco punch I got from amazon to make punching go faster. I love this set up and will continue using it. I have the tabbed months with day on 2 pages(I plan to carry only 1 month at a time). I am using the Her point of view inserts.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 17:55:00)

Good to know. I'll have to look for some of that.
And thanks!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 17:57:26)

Wow! You two are dedicated! That's a lot of work, especially with a single hole punch. I'm impressed. The FC 2ppd is a great set-up. That's the one I've used since 1993. It has enough room for everything I need to do. I use my Notes pages as a journal, too. I have tons of notes about things my kids did. It's fun to go back through and read them.

Savannah (2012-12-06 19:06:55)

Hi Patty. You may just want to break down and by the Day Timer 2DPP and their 4PPM tabbed. I think this would replicate FC pretty well but in a page size that is the same as FF. They also have storage binders for your yearly archiving. It seems that your planning style is what is being comprimised and it may be difficult to resolve with FF pages - at least not in an orderly fashion. I agree the FC binders can be quite unwieldy and the new system with a FF binder would resolve that. They are both good planners but FF inserts can be a problem for people that need more structure or like better paper quality. Just something to think about. Hope you feel back at home soon.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-06 20:19:46)

Savannah, I have actually thought about that. I looked on the Day Timer website a while back and there were hardly any options for the personal 2ppd. I need to look again just to be sure I didn't miss something. You hit the nail on the head - I do need structure! That has definitely been my problem with the FF pages. Not quite enough structure. And I like highlighting things when I complete them and highlighting doesn't work on those thin pages.
Thanks for the suggestion. I'm going to take a look at the Day Timer site right now.

MTMTE (2012-12-06 20:40:11)

I'm putting a Rapesco hole punch on my wishlist ^_^ Yes I plan to keep all of the tabbed montly sections in my binder and I'll only slot one month's worth of Do2P behind the current month's tab. I'm really looking forward to using it!

MTMTE (2012-12-06 20:43:10)

Dedication and insanity share a fine line ;) My pet-peeve with past layouts (DPP/Wo2P) has been the lack of distinction between my appointments/to-dos and the general notes I want to make along the way (which I'll now be able to find readily in the future as they stay safely on that big empty notes section)

kanalt (2012-12-06 21:09:07)

Patty, if you're interested, I have detailed my system and how I use it here:

<http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/08/the-planning-process.htm> l

I use the dpp inserts rather than the 2ppd but I hope it helps you see how one can be an FC planner with a FF. ;-)

Jotje (2012-12-07 06:00:27)

I recently switched from an A5 Filofax to the FC Compact 2PPD inserts in an FC Compact binder (well, you all read about it on my blog anyway ... ;-)).

I find the page size is the ideal compromise between Filofax A5 and Filofax Personal. I absolutely love the 2PPD inserts. I chose the Original because I can scribble on any edge of the page without some pictures or decorations getting in the way. I also find it soothing, because I also colorcode and it would all become too bright if I had color on my inserts as well.

And then: tabbed monthly inserts! They have totally replaced my Forward planning on weekly pages. The monthlies (with lines!) suffice completely.

Also absolutely adore the Index pages. I leave the past monthlies in my planner, so I can always review events back through the index.

Another big plus: the pouch pagefinder! I stick my weekly Todo and Goals list and have it visible every single day. I use the righthand side of my daily pages for my Work Todo's and the rest to log/journal about my day. Haven't missed one single day since I started this. LOOOOOOVE!

Good luck with your decision making. Let us know which side of the scale tipped!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-07 10:14:59)

Thanks, Jotje. I'll keep you posted!

Liz Vee (2012-12-07 14:10:19)

It is a repositionable paper tape, which now is available in so many sizes, colors, and patterns :)

DEM (2012-12-08 10:18:54)

What a fabulous post! Thank you!!!

Free For All Friday No. 212 (2012-12-07 00:00) - Laurie

Seems like many people are going for either smaller or bigger rings in their organizers these days.

I've read of several people who are downsizing their ring circumference to a Compact Filofax or even Slimline to reduce bulk.

On the other end of the spectrum, I know several people who have crossed over into Franklin Covey territory and are enjoying the greater capacity of 1 inch, 1.25 or even 1.5 inch rings.

Have you upgraded or downsized your rings lately?

And as always on Fridays, please feel free to discuss anything ring-binder related.

Happy Friday everyone!

MTMTE (2012-12-07 00:49:06)

I purchased an FC binder because it was cheap and I wanted to compare it to an FF...I found that those rings were just too big for me and impossible to write over. It's now a very big storage binder ^ _ ^ The 23mm of a Personal FF is big enough for me, however I frequently swap to a compact because I find those to be easiest of all.

Helen Conway (2012-12-07 02:29:38)

Anyone who read my recent Filofax confession in my blog will know I currently use a gazillion A5s but my actual life planner (as opposed to some project specific planners) is in a personal Aston. But for 2013 I am all set to move into a compact Regency. It is sitting here looking all elegant and ready to go. Its even decorated with washi tape and stickers which is very usual for me. But in order to retain my current monthly, weekly with notes and day on two page daily I have sacrificed all but a few sheets of notepaper. Which means some of the things I carry now are in an Osterley Plum A5. In other words in a superb act of anti-maths I downsided from 23 mm rings to a combined 40mm. Oops!

I am partially resolving this as I have ordered some new Moleskine Volant pocket notebooks which fit in the Regency pockets of the compact without straining the clasp and which will allow note jottings without forcing me to sacrifice diary pages. (although my preferred lime green is very hard to find now. Does anyone know why?) Another option is to carry slightly fewer daily pages. I have five weeks worth in there at present. But as I am fine with carrying the A5 and compact both from home to work and back as I am in a car I actually think the combination will be fine. If I go out socially the compact alone can go in my handbag. The A5 is also working as

a kind of transit filo which I can use to carry salient bits of all my other many filofaxes as and when needed. Ask me in February how its all working!

Tim (2012-12-07 03:47:36)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Tim (2012-12-07 03:52:37)

I think carrying a big, fat Filofax has become particularly passé for men. In the 1980's and early 90's, a large and, above all, over-filled organiser was seen as an indication of extensive responsibilities and status. Now it can just look outmoded, inefficient and behind-the-times.

I've been on a Filofax diet for 20 years, coming down from 30mm A5 via 25mm (and 28mm and 23mm Time Manager binders) to my current 13mm set-up in a Flex cover. But I'm even struggling to justify that! The turning point for me (and many others) has been the iPad. Just about everything works well on it. I'm using and synchronising all appointments, to-do's (using Things), contacts and my information database effortlessly with it. I won't be going back to paper for any of these things!

However, there is one area that still works much better with a pen. It's strategy, goal setting and planning. I find that thoughts flow much more smoothly onto quality paper than trying to tap on a screen. So my 13mm rings are sufficient for these pages.

But for 2013 I'm going to try one of Laurie's Plannerisms Planners. It's a bound system; something I've never succeeded with before. However, if I can get it to fit in my Filofax Flex cover (and it is "if" as Laurie's are unfortunately not A5) I may be able to dispense with rings completely. That would be a major step for me. I've been using ringed organisers constantly for over 25 years!

Helen Conway (2012-12-07 04:41:46)

Two thoughts occur Tim: why do you care what others think about how the system you use looks? and secondly, I use an iPad all the time too but I still have a tower of filofaxes! I did dally with the electronic diary but it didn't work for me. I thought it was great for a while and then... enthusiasm faded badly. Partly I like the action of writing and the utility of a leather binder and partly I can't see everything all at once on an iPad and it's just not the same swapping between apps as it is in a filofax. I am glad it is working for you though. I find I use iPad and filofax together with the iPad mostly for consuming content and reference and the filofax for notes and planning.

Tim (2012-12-07 05:23:34)

Us men are all dreadfully insecure Helen! We may laugh now but it certainly was an issue for men in corporate life in the 80's and not just City slickers. Your Filofax spoke volumes about you! It had to be bulging at the seams with papers and forms to show how busy you were! 1.25" or even 1.5" rings were best to hold all this stuff and, the more expensive the binder, the more successful you were perceived. A thin vinyl imitation Filofax was the worst thing to carry around!

I tend to worry less about what others think these days, especially as I run my own small business. In my dreams I would love to return to being totally paper. The reality for many of us is that iPads have revolutionised the way we work in the same way as Filofaxes did 25 years ago. There's certainly a future for paper, but just look at the paucity of male contributors on here to see that, for many men, paper organisers just don't hit the mark these days.

David Popely (2012-12-07 06:51:27)

Tim, I think you're bang on with your comments here. I can't ever *really* see myself carrying my A5 Finsbury, or even my (beautiful) black leather Time Manager again, yet as you say, in the 1980's they had to be over-stuffed, because that sent out a message that you were Important, Responsible and, most of all, Busy. Maybe I'm less bothered now, but I'm quite happy (very happy) to carry my Personal Hampstead with a very neat interior (hence the cotton cream). Like you, in my state of nirvana I *will* be 100 % paper-based, and will lose the dreaded sync problems which seem to dog everyone who has a cloud-based, or PC based, system.

I'm not that interested in the iPad 'revolution' - they still seem like highly priced executive toys to me, and I can't see me using them, now or ever. When my laptop, which has the advantage that it will run some *actual* programs but the disadvantage of weighing about as much as a hod of housebricks, eventually expires, I may get

one purely for accessing the internet and email when I'm on the move, since that appears to be about all it will do anyway, but until then I'm fine.

Paper-wise, Neil's comments earlier in the week have got me thinking about paper quality again, and last evening I got out all of my fountain pens (different colours, OK?) and tried them all on a) FF paper, b) cheap copy paper, c) a Rhodia notepad, and d) some decent 'social stationery' writing paper. The result - light years of difference going up the scale. As a result I think cheap paper and I may be on the way to parting company on a permanent basis, which, sadly, could lead to me leaving the Filofax camp, as I don't care much for the cut-and-punch proposition. Watch this space, I guess. I've discovered a couple of *really* nice paper and journal suppliers (off-topic, so I won't bore you) that I'll be checking out.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-07 07:13:32)

David - as you love your personal filofax and only ever use a basic diary and lined note pages, why don't you also investigate all the other insert manufacturers? For example Aspinall, Smithson, Montblanc? Their paper is generally superb and as you are on London frequently, you could actually go and sample it and see if it is up to your requirements.

At the other end of the scale the Staples paper they use for their ARC system is really excellent. Although it is A5 it is very slim so could easily be a contender - especially for work projects.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-07 07:16:12)

I seem to constantly change my views and wishes when it comes to binder and ring sizes - the grass always seems to be greener. I'd more or less settled on personal size for personal stuff and to carry around, and an A5 for work which sits on my desk, and now I have had the chance of a contract in the new year which would involve me working away at least two days a week - which could mean me carrying both A5 and personal. Again my mind is ticking over the best options. At the end of the day I need some mechanism to record my personal and work tasks on a piece of paper each day - then they get done, otherwise I'm afraid it is out-of-sight, out-of-mind.

David Popely (2012-12-07 07:27:48)

I was walking down Bond Street on Wednesday and passed Mont Blanc. Very tempted to go in, only put off by the seemingly-unemployed 'doorman' lurking just inside ready to unload his sales pitch on my unsuspecting personage. I really dislike shops that have 'spare' staff assigned to prospect-mugging in this way, so I passed up the opportunity. Good idea though. I see Mont Blanc have a store within John Lewis, which is generally a less daunting option....maybe I'll check it out. Refill are certainly reassuringly expensive, as thy used to say of Stella Artois....

Can't find refills on the Aspinall website (minus 1000 points for the web designers, would have thought Aspinall could afford better), but I'm sure they're there.

Smythson very nice indeed, although at £40 for a diary refills and £10 for note paper, think I'll pass....

natalie (2012-12-07 07:51:46)

How did you get on with your student-centred planning?

natalie (2012-12-07 07:52:46)

When typing on an iPad, Malden autocorrects to Maleness.

Just thought I would mention this random fact.

David Popely (2012-12-07 07:53:44)

At this stage that was really for my daughter - I've given her a stack of links, plus a basic diary and notebook setup, plus a copy of Andrew Northedge's excellent study skills book, and left her to decide what's the best way for her. Thanks for asking!

David Popely (2012-12-07 07:55:59)

Also corrects Novotel to Noodle. I very nearly spent an afternoon looking for a meeting venue at a noodle house in Greenwich....

Helen Conway (2012-12-07 08:17:46)

A, Tim and David, now I understand. This an age thing (sorry). In the 80's all I had to worry about was the fact that my mother refused to buy me either a rara or a puffball skirt. These days I am eternally grateful to her!

Tim (2012-12-07 09:20:25)

Helen - just wait until Stevie M. gets on here and sees your remarks! :) I think he may be older (just) than either David or me. He's certainly the only one who has been able to take early retirement - and instead run a very professional and interesting blog called Philofaxy!

David Popely (2012-12-07 09:47:09)

Oh, Helen, I'm disappointed.....so now we're older we are less important? Or less worried about the appearance of importance? HmMMMM

Helen Conway (2012-12-07 09:55:53)

Oh, she says (with an affected air of innocence), did I start trouble? :)

If I thought I could type in a public forum that you are MORE important as you get older without being accused of age discrimination I might consider it!

although if importance relates to how much paper you have in filofaxes I am willing to bet I am much more important than most people! (Sadly, I am sure that is in fact not remotely true!)

I wonder, in any event, how many 1980's binders were filled to capacity with mostly blank paper?!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-07 10:07:54)

I've always used a 1.25" ring in my compact FC and am having a hard time downsizing to the personal Malden rings. There's just no room! I kept a LOT of stuff in my FC.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-07 10:12:07)

Tim, I think your comment about carrying a large planner is right on the money:

"Now it can just look outmoded, inefficient and behind-the-times."

I used to get looks of admiration when I pulled out my paper planner. People thought I must be really organized. Now I get looks of surprise - like "why in the world do you want to carry that giant thing?"

And being a small business owner (my husband has a one-man remodeling business), there are some things that just have to be done on-line. I've always kept our accounting in my planner and the filing cabinet but I've been moving to keeping everything on the computer. It just makes more sense.

Regardless of what anyone thinks, I will definitely continue using a paper planner - it works for me and an electronic planner doesn't - but I'm trying to go smaller so my planner isn't so "in your face".

Karen (2012-12-07 10:21:17)

This comment has been removed by the author.

joannebu (2012-12-07 11:02:51)

Here's a random question from a regular reader, I am in love with my a5 Finchley and also with Laurie's Plannerisms planner! Is there a chance I could get a plannerismsplanner unbound or even punched for my Filo please?..

Thanks in advance , jo

Cheryl (2012-12-07 11:24:15)

I'm kind of all over the place with rings and binder sizes. (Scratches head). Firstly, I just received my beautiful Personal Grey Malden from the lovely Helen (adspot) and I JUST LOVE IT! I already had the A5 and Pocket Malden in grey and had been eyeing the Personal. Well, I have to say, this is the ONE! (ok stop laughing). I know, I know. We all say that and then we get wooed into buying a different one we think will be the one. But I really mean it. I will probably use my Personal Chameleon in Aqua in the spring/summer as I love the color. But this grey Malden is perfect. It's flexible, it smells wonderful, I love the pocket in the back (with or without notepad), I don't mind the small zipper compartment. It feels great in my hand and looks great with my white Ipad, red

Pocket Chameleon and black Compact Chameleon. Wait. What? Yes, you read that right. And herein lies the reason for the head scratch. You see, I love my grey Personal Malden to pieces. But its stuffed and therefore is kind of my 'stay at home' 'everything' binder. So, I had planned to continue using my black Compact Chameleon to take with me. In it I have the MO2P, 1 month of WO2P, some note paper and a shopping list. I also keep my 'shoppers'cards in the compact. However, I have not been using it as a wallet per se. I still have a wallet for cash, coins and credit/debit cards, coupons etc. I figured this was going to work out fine. EXCEPT! You know there are times I am out and wish I had the Malden with me and all its trivia info (house paint colors, measurements, a list of Chamillia bracelet beads I have and want and the same with my daughter's and niece's bracelets) and a ton of other info that doesn't fit in the compact. THEN I went and bought a red Pocket Chameleon that was half off last week. (Even though I swore I would never buy another pocket size because I have 2 that I don't use!). Well something about this little red cutie wooed me and now I have moved my shopping list into it, my store shopper's cards, some note paper and my Christmas lists into it. But I don't want to keep a diary in it or necessarily replace my compact. I haven't figured this out yet but using 3 binders is bordering on insanity for me. The Malden is near me at all times at home. The Compact and the Pocket are in my handbag along with a wallet. I can see this is not going to work in the long term so I need to decide on either the Compact or the Pocket in my handbag but I can't bear to give up either. And then there's those 4 A5's that I also love and don't want to part with but have no current purpose for. I'm working on that but probably not much until after the holiday. I simply love the A5's as well but they are looking a bit forlorn sitting on the shelf with no purpose. Such dilemmas. And still no world peace.

Cheryl (2012-12-07 11:30:24)

That is a great question. Before I saw Laurie's planner, I had thought the same thing with the Women's Success Planner. I really like that planner but not willing to punch new holes (too much work and I don't like how it looks with all those extra holes!). I am using the December pages as a trial and if I like them I was going to inquire if it were possible to get them unpunched. I guess at that point I'd have to punch them myself but at least they wouldn't have 13 holes in them! Have you inquired with Laurie about your request? Looking forward to the answer!

Laurie (2012-12-07 11:39:56)

Hi! Sorry but the Plannerisms planners are bound only this year, and since printing is completed there's no way to get an unbound version. I'm hoping to be able to do a looseleaf version next year though!

natalie (2012-12-07 11:54:49)

If it's possible to get it unbound, maybe it could also be unpunched? The market for it might be even bigger if it suited more formats.

Steve Morton (2012-12-07 12:03:36)

You called.....

I was born in 1959.... 54 next birthday!

So I'm not sure if that makes me older or younger than my compatriots on here!

Steve

Valerie (2012-12-07 12:04:16)

Ha ha, I don't think my A5 Vintage Pink Malden would appreciate being referred to as "maleness"....she looks pretty feminine to me!

David Popely (2012-12-07 12:08:49)

1955 here....58 next...so definitely too old for an organiser (sorry Helen) :)

Tim (2012-12-07 12:17:45)

I have today taken delivery of one of Laurie's Plannerism Going Places planners. She has put a huge amount of work into them and is to be congratulated.

I hope Laurie has got broad enough shoulders when I say there is one adverse thing to be aware of. They are

NOT, REPEAT NOT, A5. The Collins Australian website is selling them specifically as A5 products. Not true! A5 is 210mm x 148.5mm. On the planners they are described as 5.5" x 8.5" (215mm x 140mm). This is the page size. The planner itself is 220mm x 143mm (8 5/8ths" x 5 5/8ths"), with the cover.

The discrepancy comes because Laurie (as an American) has chosen Imperial sizing as still used in the USA rather than the International (ISO) Standard used just about everywhere else.

For most people it won't make a difference as a stand alone item. However, try as I might, it won't fit in my Filofax Flex cover, designed for A5. It will,(just) fit in the inside pocket of an A5 Holborn. Not sure about other Filofaxes.

For anyone planning to disect one and punch it for an A5 ring mechanism, remember that it won't line-up with your A5 paper or dividers.

It's a great shame for me as, otherwise, it's an excellent product, deserving great success. Laurie, PLEASE, next time, go for A5 - fixed or loose leaf format!

Maria (2012-12-07 12:44:41)

I've just received a black personal Hamilton in the mail (auctions, auctions, where will it all end?) and it needs a bit of cleaning and attention. What would you use to condition the leather? It's lovely silky smooth from use - just a little, eh, dirty...

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-12-07 12:50:42)

Hi guys!!

Here's my wonderingment for today:

How far ahead do you plan? I don't mean how far in the future do your appointments go, but how far ahead do you actually plan when you sit back and look at your to-dos and projects and decide when to do them? 1 week? 1 month? Even longer?

I struggle to plan more than 1 day ahead!! I think it's because my days are so unstructured, that I just fit things in as and when I have spare time that day, but I don't have much to plan around for the rest of the week, so I don't structure my diary pages too much, and so I don't really PLAN things for the future.

I am hoping to change this when I receive my new weekly planner (Laurie's brilliant Going Places Plannerisms planner!!), which I will use in conjunction with my filofax. I think one of my main problems is that I don't use a detailed weekly overview in my filo, so this planner will hopefully solve this problem!

kanalt (2012-12-07 13:10:00)

I officially plan every Sunday, and it's for the upcoming week. So detailed planning only happens for a week ahead. However, if I see I have time, or if something has to be done by a specific date, I'll put that in as I see fit. Since I only carry two months worth of daily sheets in my compact, each month I will remove the old month and add the new one in. At that time I transfer anything that is on the monthly pages to the daily pages and add and details as needed. So it's kind of on a rolling basis.

Laurie (2012-12-07 13:24:44)

Hi Tim, thanks for letting us know the Plannerisms planner does not fit in a Flex, good to know.

In fairness to myself, I did not specifically choose an American size book. My publisher first offered a narrower book, which had a narrower page resulting in unacceptably-narrow daily columns. I requested a wider book for wider daily columns, and they chose the 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inch pages. Even though the book is not exactly A5, I think users of the planner will appreciate that the columns are wider than they would have been with a narrower book.

I don't know why the publisher didn't go with exactly A5 standard size pages, but I will take your suggestions for possible alterations for next year's version.

Again, thanks for your feedback!

Neil (2012-12-07 13:44:30)

Today, conducting business across a pendino table on one of Mr Branson's trains, I was using an M2, a vintage slimline, an A4 ARC notebook and two iphones.

No-one gave me a second glance.

But, for some reason I cannot really quantify, I wouldn't want to be seen with either a personal or an A5. I suspect it's because I would feel distinctly uncomfortable, as a guy, carrying an iconic object that is being marketed as a "chique accessory".

Mud sticks, and so I think the "damage" is irrevocable.

mstraat (2012-12-07 14:18:55)

I take a half day off each year to do "big picture" planning and then an hour or two per quarter, though sometimes that turns into semi-annual. Then maybe a half hour or so per month and a bit of time each week. Daily the night before some logistical plans for the next day and the time varies on that. I have discovered for me at least if I do the bigger planning it sort of trickles on down and daily is easier, but if I skip the big picture part it never, ever trickles up to getting done what needs to happen. Apologies if that makes no sense to anyone else but me.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-07 14:38:13)

1961 - 51 this past summer.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-07 14:44:23)

I'm like Kanalt. Sunday evening I plan my week. I don't make a detailed to-do list. I just go through and transfer any appointments from my monthly calendar, write down when the grandkids will be here, when I'm having lunch with my daughter-in-law, and any other things I know I'm doing.

Then I go through and write down tasks I know I need to do on certain days. For example, mail a birthday card on Tuesday. Make a grocery list on Monday. Pay bills on Friday. Follow-up on a friend's procedure on Thursday. Thaw meat for the next day's dinner.

Then the night before, I make a detailed to-do list. Sometimes the list already has a few items on it. Sometimes it's blank.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-07 14:46:29)

Neither an A5 nor a personal? I thought it was just A5's.

John (2012-12-07 15:19:45)

I'm a 37 year-old man, I carry a personal Guildford - kept full, not stuffed, and impeccably neat, using it as a wallet, calendar, project-planner and journal. If I have to go pocketed, I carry a slimline, but that's for occasional use only - I like having my ideas with me, like a security blanket.

If anything, I've been looking to move up to a larger-ring Personal, but a contemporary one as vintage FF's typically lack the card slots I need - the dream would be an Personal Eton.

Incidentally, I've been complimented, encouraged, even admired for using the organizer (caveat: I live in the Pacific NW of the USA, where, if you watch "Portlandia," is apparently where the 90's live on in perpetuity).

I've considered getting an iPad because I can't argue with its superficial visual elegance, but I have yet to be convinced that it's a transformational tool. I see it used too often as little more than a handheld television, which I think is what we precisely need less of in contemporary society. As a writer, there isn't a ergonomic prospect worse than having to type for very long on glass.

Neil (2012-12-07 15:24:51)

I have plenty of personal sized filofaxes, but they are all in either the office or my home.

I've never used an A5, because I use the ARC notebook system in both A5 and A4 formats.

natalie (2012-12-07 15:28:32)

What is ARC?

Anthony Hill (2012-12-07 15:57:52)

This is off topic I know, some time ago it was mentioned that there was an alternative to the Filofax storage binder I cannot remember the name by any chance has anyone any idea?

gmax (2012-12-07 16:01:44)

Sometime soon, if permitted, I will make a guest post featuring what I think is very probably the biggest honkin fillo that was ever made in the personal size!

Alison Reeves (2012-12-07 16:21:35)

Am I the oldest at 1954?

David - please don't be put off by the door man at the Montblanc store. I've been in there more than once resembling a bag lady and he has very kindly helped me both into and out of the store carrying all my bags for me. I 'only' went in for some ink and was treated with the utmost respect by very, very helpful sales people. Nothing was too much trouble.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-07 16:28:58)

Sounds like it needs the Nivea treatment ...

Neil (2012-12-07 16:34:49)

ARC notebooks are a repositional system, using plastic discs instead of a traditional ring binder mechanism. You can find them in Staples.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-07 16:36:04)

How are you using the ARC Neil?

Natalie - it is a notebook with moveable sheets sold by Staples.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-07 16:43:02)

If you're using personal size, you can get one from Franklin Covey or Day Timer.

Anthony Hill (2012-12-07 17:33:25)

Thanks for your reply yes I'm using personal size I'll investigate. One more question how do the Franklin Covey and Day Timer compare with Filofax as regards quality?

Helen Conway (2012-12-07 18:21:42)

My big goals go a year or so ahead or even longer and I block out studio time and holiday time as sacrosanct time at least six months out. Then I plan on the first weekend of each month what my monthly goals are (which is usually mostly deciding what steps to my big goals should be taken that month.) then each Sunday I plan the week and again each night, I plan the next day, quite often carrying over undone tasks as I get overoptimistic about what I can do! So basically the planning goes down from big picture to nitty gritty. The daily planning only takes two or three minutes. Its not a big task.

Alan Marshall (2012-12-07 18:22:00)

1955

Steve Morton (2012-12-07 18:24:37)

I think at this rate OAP will no longer stand for Old Age Pensioner... but instead we will be collectively known as Old Age Philofaxers..... ;-)

Helen Conway (2012-12-07 18:29:02)

I sympathise. At work today I had Seven fillos with me and used six. The one i did not use only has a 2013 diary in it. If you are seeking world peace why not start at home and come to peace with the idea that what seems like fillo madness sometimes works even if only because they make us happy!

Tim (2012-12-07 19:04:27)

John - good to learn that your Personal Guildford is working well.

If you've not already discovered it, have a look at Time Management Ninja <http://timemanagementninja.com> . It's US based and has lots of articles on the merits or otherwise of iPads.

Alan Marshall (2012-12-07 22:44:13)

I have two binders that typically travel with me: A slimline Finsbury which I keep in my inside jacket pocket, and (2) A Dayrunner half-sheet (8.5"x5.5", 218x141, about the same as A5) that is on my briefcase. The Half Sheet has my course administration stuff in it (Course outlines, documentation from students, etc.) and a WO2P diary with course class schedules, "take with me" and "to do in class" lists.

My Finsbury is used as a wallet, Diary (albeit with less details) & card holder. It is straining the pocket, and in due course I will be tempted to find something smaller; those L'Agenda Moderne I saw the other day at Laywines look tempting. I cannot see the ring size being smaller than 11mm for functionality or greater than 13mm for fitting in my pocket.

Cheryl (2012-12-08 00:47:59)

You wanna talk old...I'm sitting here watching Herman's Hermits, Lulu, Petula Clark, The Animals, Peter and Gordon, The Zombies (Time of the Season, She's Not There...come on now!), The Troggs, Gerry and the Pacemakers, Moody Blues, Manfred Mann...and scores of others on this PBS British Invasion Special. And I know all the words! Ah, what a great tv find tonight.

1955 here

Cheryl (2012-12-08 00:53:59)

If we were on Facebook I'd 'like' your comment Helen :)

LJ (2012-12-08 01:26:00)

Ooh - this morning I am now feeling quite young 1974 - hurrah!!! And yes, I had the ra-ra skirt and my mother bought me a puffball skirt (awful length, awful skirt). I think she wanted me to be more of a girl... :-)

LJ (2012-12-08 01:35:22)

Wow - ring sizes!!! I'm about to move binders again... I've very recently moved into a compact Chameleon for work which has been lovely. However, after spending two and a half days this week in a strategy development programme at work I will now be back on big long term projects again that fall under my area of influence (finance) and so it's time to say adieu to the fabulousness of a compact and move back into an A5. The good thing about this is that I can start to use my A5 dodopad inserts to track my food & exercise again (I have been utterly rubbish at monitoring these recently and I find that if I have them in my work file I am more likely to actually do it. The main drawback will be the fact that I am back to lugging round a heavy A5 file, but I guess I can live with that :o)

gmax (2012-12-08 04:47:29)

A lightly dampened piece of kitchen roll will shift the dirt, and then a good quality leather treatment applied a while later should restore it nicely.

David Popely (2012-12-08 05:53:55)

I do my plan on Friday afternoon as part of my weekly review. If I'm in London on the Thursday/Friday I do it first thing Monday - not ideal.

My appointments go 12-18 months ahead (usually nearer 12), by getting the 'hard landscape' settled in my diary according to a long-standing set of priorities, I find I can ensure that I don't schedule across those dates.

I do a *big* review twice a year, once in between Christmas and the new year, the other during Spring Bank Holiday week here in the UK, which is a hangover from when I had kids and we used to be on holiday that week. That's when goals get set and reviewed, most of the rest of the time it's just carrying down tasks, reviewing the lists, etc etc

David Popely (2012-12-08 05:59:01)

Thanks Alison, I'll bear that in mind.....

esskaym (2012-12-08 11:39:29)

My first comment EVER after lurking for the last 3 months or so. I just bought my first filofax on Fab.com. Snagged a raspberry A5 Finsbury for myself and a blue one as a Christmas gift for a friend. As I live in Barbados,

I haven't actually been able to handle a personal or an A5 to see the difference myself but I'm thinking the personal would be too small. The A5 seems ideal for a 'my entire life in one planner'. Be sure to check out the Fab.com sale if you are looking for an A5 Finsbury or personal Metropol. They also have Flex planners on sale.

Girl21 (2012-12-08 17:11:24)

I don't know where to put this in, but I'm super excited by my latest filofax purchase! I picked up a brand new A5 2013 Finchley Red from TK Maxx today for £50! I was going to get one at full price after christmas, so getting £70 is definitely a bargain!

Alan Marshall (2012-12-08 22:40:02)

We could be a duet.

Also 1955.

Jotje (2012-12-09 06:03:40)

If you are referring to the storage binders: I have both the Filofax and FC storage binder. The first is made of cheap plastuc and it's impossible to use for reference purposes. The latter is made from heavy cardboard, has a sturdy 2 ring mechanism and is most suitable to browse once filed. It's also much bigger! It easily stores a full year of 2ppd inserts!

Cruz Johnson (2012-12-13 14:13:23)

1992.

Web Finds - 8 December 2012 (2012-12-08 00:00) - Steve Morton

So this is your best excuse to not be dragged outside to do any work in the cold, or having to go and do Christmas shopping with thousands of other people... shop on line, and there's always another day for the leaf clearing/snow shovelling... tell them Steve said it was ok...

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from around the internet:

1. [1]PLANNERISMS PLANNERS NOW READY TO ORDER FOR WORLDWIDE SHIPPING
2. [2]Asprey - Filofax compatible - Cloudberry Musings
3. [3]My Filofax Week 10 - Glossette
4. [4]Nearly a new year so new set up time :) - Nothing's Original Anymore
5. [5]Dividers hacked - Monica Luis
6. [6]December 4 365/30 Philofaxers - Miscellany from a Filofax Fanatic
7. [7]365/30: New Filofax formats to try out next year - Filomaniac
8. [8]Shall I Name It The Balmorikat??? - Vanjilla
9. [9]Hey There, Lovely! - Friday, I'm in Love
10. [10]New Filofax Set-Up (What, Again?) - Supply Cabinet Chronicles
11. [11]Making your own narrow ruled personal pages - Filofaximile
12. [12]Filofax Personal Chameleon in Raspberry! - Annie the Housewife
13. [13]Creative Planner - Jagged Little Thoughts

14. [14]Video on sizing down to a personal portland filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
15. [15]Christmas Filofax; Personal Cuban in Chilli - My Filo World
16. [16]An analogue/digital journey - combining a filofax with a smartphone. - Filofax Philosophy
17. [17]a word of warning about the Osterley range - Paperlove Story
18. [18]Late-night realisation! - The Life of The Perpetual Student
19. [19]Raider of the (not really Lost) Arc - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
20. [20]New arrivals - meet Luxe, Malden, Guildford and Cuban! - I love my stationery
21. [21]Passing fellow faxers - Filofaximile
22. [22]Elaboration - Filofaximile
23. [23]My stunning A5 Osterley - File of Facts
24. [24]My New Filofax Malden - Glossette
25. [25]Male or Female?? A Poll - Thoughts & Exploration
26. [26]New monthly refills and cute stickers - Monica Luis
27. [27]Random Act(s) of Kindness (RAOK) - The Storage Studio
28. [28]Finding a Pocket Rio on eBay - The Crazy Suburban Mom
29. [29]Let's talk about Flex - Filomaniac
30. [30]2013 Planner Prep + New Inserts - Friday, I'm in love
31. [31]Going to give my personal size a go.... Again - The Crazy Suburban Mom
32. [32]New binder on its way!! - Paper Pens Ink
33. [33]Filofax shopping list - Cloudberry Musings
34. [34]New setup for Red - Cloudberry Musings

- Your blog post could appear here next week if we missed you this time around. Email us the details and we will include it if we can.
- We can not guarantee people will read your posts, but we know there is a higher chance of people reading your posts and returning to read other posts if you make them interesting with pictures and good hints and tips. Do not forget to give your posts a title...

Enjoy

1. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/12/plannerisms-planners-now-ready-to-order.html>
2. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/12/asprey-filofax-compatible.html>
3. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/12/03/my-filofax-week-10/>
4. <http://nothingsoriginalanymore.blogspot.fr/2012/12/nearly-new-year-so-new-set-up-time.html>
5. <http://mluisblog.blogspot.fr/2012/12/dividers-hacked.html>
6. <http://filofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/12/december-4-36530-philofaxers.html>
7. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/12/36530-new-filofax-formats-to-try-out.html>
8. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/12/shall-i-name-it-balmorikat.html>
9. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.fr/2012/12/hey-there-lovely.html>
10. <http://supplycabinetchronicles.blogspot.fr/2012/12/new-filofax-set-up-what-again.html>

11. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/making-your-own-narrow-ruled-personal.html>
12. <http://anniethehousewife.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-personal-chameleon-in-raspberry.html>
13. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/12/creative-planner.html>
14. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/12/video-on-sizing-down-to-personal.html>
15. <http://myfiloworld.com/christmas-filofax-personal-cuban-in-chilli/>
16. <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/12/an-analoguedigital-journey-combining.html>
17. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/12/a-word-of-warning-about-osterley-range.html>
18. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/12/late-night-realisation.html>
19. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/12/06/raider-of-the-not-really-lost-arc/>
20. <http://ilovemystationery.blogspot.fr/2012/12/new-arrivals-meet-luxe-malden-guildford.html>
21. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/passing-fellow-faxers.html>
22. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/elaboration.html>
23. <http://file-of-facts.blogspot.fr/2012/12/my-stunning-a5-osterley.html>
24. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/12/06/my-new-filofax-malden/>
25. <http://www.thoughtsandexploration.com/2012/12/male-or-female-poll.html>
26. <http://mluisblog.blogspot.fr/2012/12/new-monthly-refills-and-cute-stickers.html>
27. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/12/random-acts-of-kindness-raok.html>
28. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/finding-pocket-rio-on-ebay.html>
29. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/12/lets-talk-about-flex.html>
30. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.com/2012/12/2013-planner-prep-new-inserts.html>
31. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/11/going-to-give-my-personal-size-go-again.html>
32. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/12/new-binder-on-its-way.html>
33. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-shopping-list.html>
34. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/12/new-setup-for-red.html>

LJ (2012-12-08 01:40:06)

It feels like an age since I've been able to actually read the web find on a Saturday morning, but today I have a less busy morning and so I can chill out (providing the boys don't decide it's time to start arguing) before getting everyone ready for the day and then we can all go out and play in the snow - a perfect day :o)

DEM (2012-12-08 10:17:58)

Just had breakfast at my local fire department with the family and Santa and now I'm curled up on the sofa in the living room with my chai tea and my laptop while Christmas songs play in the background. I'm ready to read all these fantastic posts! I love Saturday mornings!

Debbie (2012-12-08 15:50:08)

Hello everyone!

I am trying to get my 2013 inserts ordered for my old leather zippered Franklin Covey planner and am so inspired by all your planners. Am I correct that there are no monthly Filofax tabs in Personal size that are white?

Thanks for your help.

Suus S (2012-12-08 17:59:12)

Love the web findings. Looking every week to reed them!

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

I love Web finds! Think I am in love with a certain filofax called Red!! Although, not right for me, as try hard as I might, personal size just does not work for me. Am still in love with little ol' Red though!!!*Sigh*



[1]

Today I would like to introduce you to Anthony.

Hello fellow Philofaxers. I am Anthony I live in UK together with my wife. I took early retirement from work for what seems like a long time ago now. Since my retirement I have been fortunate enough to pursue my interests. This a short-ish list (I hope) which comprises computers, music, family history, botany in particular Cryptogams, none flowering plants, lichens, fungi and bryophytes and of course Filofaxes. I have a voluntary job, working in our local library helping people get to grips with the basics of using a computer and subsequently helping them to carry out a basic search and using Microsoft Word compiling their CV where necessary.

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

I bought my first Filofax in Oct 2008 It's a red Metropol in personal size. At first it took me a very long time to get to grips with it, but now it's in constant use.

2. What other brands have you used or considered?

Many years ago I used a small pocket diary which was essentially a daily record of appointments business and social things. During these years the diaries contained names and addresses and other useful information for instance a book list, music details and purchases. During the period from 1969 to 1984 I have used three Five Year Dairies which was filled with the daily activities again these diaries contained a daily journal, names and addresses and the rear of the diaries. The cover of the first five year was in a light brown leather the other two were bound in plastic. In the period that followed I have used an A5 desk diary with WO2P or as it's also known a Week to View. I tended to use the A5 desk diary more and occasionally used my Metropol. In retrospect I should used it much sooner, what's that saying the benefit of hindsight. I've also used an academic spiral bound diary A6 size bought from Tesco's. I have also used quite extensively two very old Twinlock A5 size black leather-look binders with incidentally only three rings. I wonder if anyone remembers them or in fact used them as a file? I look upon the above period as my formative years. At the moment I am quite satisfied with my current Filofaxes I considered a Deco in personal size when it was first introduced but unfortunately the price seemed very high.

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

My current favourites are my Malden in Vintage Crimson in personal size, my Finchley in Imperial Purple also in personal size. The colours are really beautiful and the covers are really tactile, both lay flat every time I open them. I have experienced very little difficulty with them.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I own five, all in personal size. My favourites being the Malden which I bought from Anita and the Finchley. I have two Sketches one in red and one in brown then lastly my Metropol in red. This binder was my first purchase four years ago. The two Sketches were bought at a well know retail store which has discounts on clothes, jewellery, perfumes, luggage, household items and Filofaxes, the prices were heavily discounted and a bargain. I notice that there has been a lot of correspondence regarding how flat the binders lay. Speaking purely from experience my Malden and Finchley and the two Sketches and the Metropol lay absolutely flat without any attention. The two Sketches however did initially need a bit of persuasion to conform at the beginning and now they are perfect.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

The main purpose for which I use my Sketch is where I keep a detailed record of appointments. The cover

is textured and is hard wearing, it's my general all purpose binder which I carry with me for most of the time. It contains current diary, a Week on Two Pages, Birthdays Anniversaries and special occasions list (January to December) address list, a page which includes dates to be transferred into next years diary. I am interested in family history and have a brief list of my immediate family members in the censuses from 1841 to 1911.

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most

The best feature must be the flexibility and how it's possible to customise the binder to your own needs, for instance personalised inserts photos and the like. The possibilities are endless also it is possible to switch pages within the binder. This feature is impossible in a normal bound diary. I must add that the Filofax binders when purchased new always have the diary inserts without lines, my question is why? Each year I have to send to Filofax for the Week on Two Pages with ruled pages.

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

This question for me is rather hard to answer I think that most of the binders one way and another seem to have covered almost every feature that you could ever want.

8. How do you carry your Filofax

I have a shoulder bag, I have noticed that some call it a Man Bag. I have only been aware of this phrase recently. I wonder do the ladies call theirs a Lady Bag? I would think not. At other times my Filofaxes are on my desk

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

I like all of the binders. At the moment I don't think I'll be buying another just yet but it's not a statement that is carved in stone.

10. What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax and which model?

In July I bought the Malden Vintage Crimson via the Adspot which was a very reasonable £35. This is a superb binder I can see why so many people are delighted and care so much about the model.

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

I like everything, especially the Free for All's the hints and tips, the video finds. Everyone here is so friendly, helpful and trusting in which I have had first hand experience. I wonder if there is another site with such good people.

12. What do you not like about Philofaxy

There is absolutely nothing to dislike.

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

The last CD I bought was by Malicorne "Concert exceptionnel aux Francofolies de la Rochelle 2010" They were a French electric folk group and flourished in the nineteen seventies but occasionally play concerts. Prior to that I bought their album "Vox" I've played both albums incessantly since purchase. Apparently they that's Gabriel and Marie Yacoub named the band after a little village situated in the Auvergne region North-Western area of France.

Thank you Anthony for agreeing to be one of our readers under the spotlight.

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-taeb63ghJrw/UK18naFbfWI/AAAAAAAA0JU/U179r0vBtm4/s1600/UnivStudios01.jpg>

indigogarden (2012-12-09 00:53:17)

Excellent interview. I like your views on the Sketch. I've sometimes thought about that one in an A5 size. You've given me something to mull over. :)

David Popely (2012-12-09 05:43:17)

Hi Anthony, thanks for a great insight, but most of all for the Malicorne connection - brilliant! I'm a kindred spirit brought up on Gryphon and Steeleye Span, and I've never heard of Malicorne. Now, thanks to the wonders of Spotify, I'm catching up on what I missed!

Helen Conway (2012-12-09 17:14:19)

No, we girls do not call it a Lady bag. We call it a handbag. But being busy shopping we do not have time to pronounce all that so we drop the d. Han-bag, Rhymes with Man-bag... See?!!

Anthony Hill (2012-12-09 17:33:16)

Hi David, I have a number of albums by Steeleye, Malicorne are very much in the same vein. Please take a look at You Tube there is quite a lot of vids. I have a CD compilation "Vox" probably a good starting point and the aforementioned Concert on CD plus an LP Malicorne "Legende Deuxieme Epoque" On the Amazon UK site most of their CDs are listed. There is a DVD "Live at Francofolies" which is on the French website of Amazon which I haven't as yet purchased.

David Popely (2012-12-10 02:48:17)

I'm already on it! The similarity was immediately obvious....great stuff. And all the albums are on Spotify as well.....

Alison (2012-12-10 04:20:00)

Haha, love this!! :-)

Alison (2012-12-10 04:20:20)

Great post Anthony :-)

Anita (2012-12-10 08:13:34)

Lovely to find out more about you & I'm so glad to hear that you're enjoying the Malden, Tony :)

I'm having a little listen to Malicorne on Spotify whilst typing this & really enjoying it.

Anthony Hill (2012-12-10 11:40:51)

Glad to see/hear that you've discovered Malicorne. My favourite track "Marion les roses" it's an a cappella track. Also give a listen to "La Mule", "La Conduite" and "l'ecolier assassin" Enjoy

Anthony Hill (2012-12-10 11:46:48)

A haaandbag Lady Bracknell???

What type of writing instrument do you use in your Filofax? (2012-12-10 00:00) **- Steve Morton**

Some interesting discussions following on from the meeting notes last week about paper quality and similar topics.

It got me wondering about what sort of pens etc that people actually use in their Filofax organisers. We do see quite a variety in blog posts and You Tube videos. But I thought it would be good to do a poll to see what is the most popular type and see what percentage of Philofaxy readers are fountain pen users. So please indicate in the poll in the side bar which writing instrument you use.

Josh (2012-12-10 00:20:38)

But what if you use two instruments on a very regular and consistent basis? For example, I use pencil and a fountain pen, probably 40 % pencil to 50 % fountain pen.

EmmaNoey (2012-12-10 00:35:54)

I use pencil, in various lead sizes, gel pens, ballpoint pens, roller balls, and felt pens, which I love for the vivid colors. I marked 'other', although it doesn't seem to have registered. And then there are the highlighters . . . My pens, aside from the gold Cross sets and various rOtrings, are an inexpensive indulgence - and I have a peck of 'em.

Hamish MacBear (2012-12-10 01:07:20)

I use Frixion pens for anything that might change - appointments, work meetings, events or to-do's that are scheduled for a specific day - but everything else is written in ballpoint pen. I love the Frixion pens because I can write appointments in my diary and colour-code them, but erase them if the appointments change (which they frequently do). I used to use pencil, but that didn't really work for me.

My current favourite ballpoint pen is a Lamy with purple ink - gorgeous!

Hamish MacBear (2012-12-10 01:08:24)

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Alan Marshall (2012-12-10 01:09:00)

In my personal, I use Zebra F-301 ballpoints, most of the time. They are somewhat thin-barreled and have a fine point, making it easier to keep my writing small. For my half-sheet (A5) sized organizer, I have a ceramic tipped ball-point pen, which feels like pens twice the price. I have to be careful with the paper refills as this pen will bleed on lesser-quality paper. (I printed my own diary insert for 2013 on high quality paper. I also have a set of 12 coloured Staedtler fine point markers to colour-code entries. I also carry a 0.5mm mechanical pencil with 2B lead. Steve: I'd love to see a discussion on what paper people use, as I am sure there are many on Philofaxy that print their own inserts.

indigogarden (2012-12-10 01:19:03)

I use two ballpoint pens, a Zebra F-701 and a Cross Century. Each is dedicated to a single Filofax and are my general use pens. I also share a hi-tec-c Coletto 4 for color coding in both Filofaxes.

Shaha (2012-12-10 01:53:45)

I have a metropol, and I use a highlighter on one loop (its so much better to highlight stuff done than to cut it out) and a fountain pen on the other. :D

[1]DiaryGirl

1. <http://shahadaahmed.blogpost.com/>

Helen Conway (2012-12-10 01:56:46)

In my planner Filo a Waterman rollerball and also Statedler Triplus liners in green and red. In all others Pilot pens in black and either red or green with the addition of a pencil as well for my blog planner.

Helen Conway (2012-12-10 02:01:17)

When I printed my own inserts I used plain copier paper from Rymans. For some reason this is fine for my A5 inserts like blog planners and my studio time records. I also use this plain and unprinted for some my work notes. But when I printed a set of daily inserts for my planner personal filo... Hated them! I actually preferred the Filofax paper. Odd. Maybe it was that having downsized to personal for that purpose I instinctively wanted the paper weight to downsize too.

Miss N. (2012-12-10 03:44:51)

I use several Stabilo point 88 pens for appointments and other things which I write on Week on 2 pages, but for other things there's a regular blue ink pen

Paul B (2012-12-10 04:06:50)

I'm using a vintage fountain pen with my hand-guillotined Clairefontaine paper (which takes ages but I guess is a labour of love), and a Frixion Le m diary as my appointments change frequently and at a minute's notice.

I stopped using pencil as I found the papers were slowly running and smudging my writing and over the course of a couple of week it looked quite ugly. And due to others discussing their liking for brown ink, I'm using montblanc toffee brown ink in the fountain pen.

ENABLE MODE = ON

Just received this discount code from www.filofax.co.uk and I think it's for today only:

Use code DAY10 to get 20 % off orders over £5, plus there's free postage at the moment, within UK.

SMW (2012-12-10 04:06:54)

I use a Parker ballpoint, a Bic Multicolour and an erasable pen.

Lily (2012-12-10 04:45:23)

I use anything to hand! I keep a Muji erasable pen (which don't seem to be on their website - are they discontinued?!) in my Filo, so I'm voting that.

natalie (2012-12-10 04:53:51)

Pencil.

Fat 1.4mm pencil leads in my Lamy ABC.

Skinny 0.5mm leads in my Filofax Barley.

Medium 1.18mm indelible leads in my vintage Yard-o-Led.

Who needs pens anyway?

Suus S (2012-12-10 05:40:56)

What a nice question. My boyfriend calls me 'the Queen of the Pens' and we live in the 'House of pens'.

I have tried all kinds of pen. Last Saturday I received some new pens from 'PenStore': the Frixion. I have read so much about them, that I wanted to try them out. I do not know how they are, but I think that I am going to pre-order some more. The first letters on paper were pretty good. And also the erasing went very good!

I have been using the Pilot G2 pens Fine with a 0.7 mm pen point. Love them! I got them after reading reviews regarding these pens on Moleskine paper. It does not bleed through! And it also does not bleed through the Filofax paper. Besides the Pilot G2 I also use fountain pens from Waterman and the ballpoint also from Waterman. I have for the fountain pen different colors: blue, green and purple. For some reason I almost never use the black ink. Just don't like the color. For both Waterman pens I use the fine pen point.

I never use pencil in my planner. Always a pen. If I have to make corrections I use my Tipp-Ex micro tape.

Suus S (2012-12-10 05:42:35)

And in my Malden Person I carried the Waterman ballpoint. It is slim enough for the pen loop.

Paul Taylor (2012-12-10 06:54:29)

I'm a fountain pen user - I collect vintage fountain pens and find ballpoints uncomfortable to use, although I can cope with rollerball types. I don't bother with Filofax paper but instead punch Rhodia paper for my A5 (a black Ascot). Currently I'm using a Waterman L'Etalon with a fine nib, filled with Sailor Sei-boku permanent blue-black ink - but this will probably change within days to something else. Paper-wise, I have a mix of punched pages from a Rhodia R notepad (cream paper, fractionally smaller than A5, 90gsm) and pages from a Rhodia Meeting Book (A5, white paper with a meeting notes specific layout). I hate bleedthrough and feathering!

Howard (2012-12-10 07:17:18)

I voted for Gel Pen, which I use in my main organiser. But I also use a fountain pen in my A5. The A5 Filofax paper seems to handle FP ink better than the Personal size. Plus I use the A5 on a desk, which makes fountain pens more practicable.

Anita (2012-12-10 07:52:53)

I use a mixture of gel pen (Pilot & Muji), fountain pen (Lamy) & ballpoint (Caran D'ache & Parker). I'd use fountain 100 % of the time but gel pen is so much better on filofax paper.

Neil (2012-12-10 08:06:09)

It's great to read about what pens people are using because, let's face it, endless talk about binders can become quite monotonous. Pens and paper are just as interesting and, in my opinion, ought to be discussed more frequently.

What we all need to consider, however, is that there are factors that will skew this poll. In particular, the fact that Filofax doesn't currently supply paper suitable for the use of fountain pens means that many fountain pen users,

such as myself, will be using a different pen in their filofax.
Also, the pen loop may well restrict a user's choice of pen.

Paul Taylor (2012-12-10 09:03:17)

I know what you mean about the pen loop restricting choice. I mostly use my A5 ascot which has two fairly large pen loops - one bigger than the other, I often use a Parker '51' fountain pen and its matching mechanical pencil in the big front loop and smaller rear loop respectively. The pencil is very rarely used...

However I've just got hold of a personal Ascot (felt like trying a personal size to see if it would work) whose single pen loop is absolutely miniscule and not even big enough for the pencil from the A5, so I'm not quite sure what I'm going to do about that. I suppose leather is slightly elastic, so I may have to try gently stretching the loop or use something like my very tiny Verelyte ringtop button-filler which is extremely narrow and only about 4 inches long! Another possibility would be to hook the pen clip through the pen loop on the binder... its diminutive size was quite a surprise as I've had other personal size binders which had perfectly sensible sized pen loops capable of taking a full size pen!

Neil (2012-12-10 09:19:19)

Paul - the solution to the pen loop problem is obvious to me, and I'd be happy to divulge it to Filofax if they asked me. But I'm a bloke, which means they won't, lol.

Paul, my filofaxes are working tools, so I tend to use the nearest pen to hand, but I'm a big fan of Rhodia notebooks. I always have an A7 webbie in my pocket (quite an unusual size) and invariably carry a Kaweco Sport fountain pen because of its extremely small size. I find it essential to be able to write about experiences as they are actually in progress, which probably makes for untidy prose, but is undoubtedly the real deal - coffee stains at street cafes, beer marks in pubs, salt crystals from trips across the bay - is essence, the DNA of a notebook's life.

DEM (2012-12-10 10:59:17)

I use an assortment of fountain pens, rollerball, and my newest pen - a Parker Ingenuity fiber tip.

Josh (2012-12-10 11:09:07)

I've been meaning to find myself a Parker 51. I cannot fit any of my fountain pens into my pen loop so I carry those in my pocket. Pencil in the tiny pen loop

Cheryl (2012-12-10 11:18:42)

Nothing fancy for me! I use either a Frixion erasable in black or purple. I also have a grey Frixion erasable nearby if I'm at home which is very light but good for check boxes, lines, etc.

I also regularly use my favorite Uniball Jetstream pens. I would say the Frixion is mostly in the pen loop but like my glasses pens seems to grow legs and go astray around here so often I'm grabbing whatever's handy if I'm at home.

Valerie (2012-12-10 11:22:37)

I keep a Hi-tec-C Coletto 4 color pen in one pen loop on my Malden A5 binder, and a Papermate Inkjoy 100 in brown ink in the other. I love the way the Papermate Inkjoy 100 flows...and they are very inexpensive too.

Alan Marshall (2012-12-10 11:27:43)

Yes, I know what you mean. I've been looking - somewhat halfheartedly - for a good quality paper under 20lb (75g/m²) for my insert printing, particularly for my personal. I actually have some perforated Filofax laser sheets (3 to a US 8.5x11) which I haven't used yet. I also have some older Dayrunner sheets for lasers, but they are heavier than I want.

For my A5, I used 24lb (90g/m²) parchment paper for my 2013 inserts and the pages look and fell great, but it has bulked up the binder more than I would like.

indigogarden (2012-12-10 11:38:53)

Or try a Hero 616, it is a clone of the Parker 51. It is made in their former factory in fact. You can buy them by the pack very inexpensively. They write similar to the "51", but you will need to adjust the pen

when you first get it and do a bit of tuning of the nib. The quality of the body material is not as good as the Parker either, but I find it a good starter pen to get used to the aerometric filling system that this and the Parker uses.

Tonya (2012-12-10 11:43:29)

I must be odd, I had to use a fountain pen at school (many years ago) and used a left handed nib. Could never go back to fountain pens and quite happy with my cheap Bic 4 colour pen. I bought my 12 year old a Frixion for her Domino (she wanted to be like me and we have planner sessions together lol) and I'm not keen on it. I don't use an expensive ballpoint as I might lose it but maybe I need to give some other pens a try.

ClaireEJ (2012-12-10 11:54:30)

I use a Cross-Franklin Covey Melbourne Multi-pen at the moment. I write provisional appointments in pencil and then ink them in when need be. I love that the multi-pen has a really easy mechanism to use where depending which colour tab is on the up side, it pushes that colour into use.

For Christmas, I know that a "new fangled" Coletto pen is coming my way with some very pretty colours in it. This will go into my Leuchtturm 1917 pen loop and be a welcome addition.

I do collect pens, only good ones, and when I am writing at home, I'll pull out one of those but for day to day use, it's the ones mentioned above for my Finsbury Zipped Personal.

In my Pocket Savannah, I have an e-juice pen with the ipad stylus end on it. Takes mini ballpoint refills and is more of a cutesy gadget than a serious pen.

ClaireEJ (2012-12-10 11:56:22)

How do you like the Coletto? Cx

Puddytat purr (2012-12-10 12:02:03)

I use a ballpoint that I purchased years ago, but I also have a newfangled coletto 5 barrel coming.

I've also just bought a Frixion in black for writing on washi tape

ClaireEJ (2012-12-10 12:04:55)

Writing on Washi Tape? I just use mine as decoration or edgings. Never thought about writing on it, hmmm.x

Tor Ince (2012-12-10 12:27:22)

I usually use a black Uniball pen and a blue fluid highlighter, one for each loop. I find ballpoints hard to hold and write with and I stopped using fountain pens when I went into middle school, but I really like the idea.

I sometimes use a CD pen to write on top of highlighting strips, but I really like the 'look' of the ink on paper, too. All smooth, matte and uniform - I have yet to find a normal pen that's like that.

kanalt (2012-12-10 12:40:02)

I use pencil for anything that is tentative. For my daily writings, I use the Uniball JetStream pens (love!), blue for personal and black for work. I also use two coletto 4's - green, purple, orange, and aqua for personal; red, brown, pink, and lime green for work. Then there are different colored highlighters for different things.

John (2012-12-10 12:46:40)

I carry a ballpoint together with a fountain pen clipped into the pen holder of my Personal. The ballpoint is used for calendar entries, the fountain for journaling, drafting, notes. I find that with the strap buttoned in, the pens are reasonably secure.

I have a collection of modern fountain pens, with which I rotate what I carry every few days. Today, I'm using a Rotring 600 with a medium nib and Pelikan "cheap" (not Edelstein) blue ink, with a complimentary Rotring ballpoint containing a Fisher Space Pen refill.

Storm Bunny (2012-12-10 13:01:54)

I go for the frixion pens. The color is nice, though the red ink tends to pool on the paper, so if you don't dab it after writing, you'll end up staining other pages. Still, for me it's important to be able to erase notes in case of change. In the past I used only pencil.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-10 13:54:26)

I would like to use a fountain pen (and managed to do so in the 2012 TM for A5 pages - however the 2013 are completely different and don't like my fountain pen). I use frixions for appointments that may well move. I also have the bic four coloured biros which I like to add some colour (I have two different ones so in total 8 colours). May try the Coleto which everyone is raving about. I tried pencil but found when I tried rubbing it out that I ended up with lots of dirty smudges.

Jana (2012-12-10 14:44:19)

I use Muji 0,5 mm pens in 12 colors. Love them.

Tonya (2012-12-10 14:45:52)

Yes, you could use it to highlight something important in your diary, so write that event on the washi tape. A few of us bought some on Ebay last night thanks to Puddytat purr!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-10 16:09:04)

Bic 4-color pen with red, green, blue and black. If I had a second pen loop, I'd have a mechanical pencil.

Alice x (2012-12-10 16:16:17)

Ok i have a stupid question...someone just asked me why your called philofaxy...and i have no idea, does it say somewhere? Am i being really really dim...im guessing i am.....

charffers (2012-12-10 16:51:36)

Bleeding fountain pens; usually with only enough ink for 3 words. So normally 0.5mm pencil

Steve Morton (2012-12-10 17:39:52)

It's a very good question! PH makes an F sound yes? So Ph instead of F, sounds makes Philofax and Filofax sound the same... Philofaxy is named after the original founder of the blog who called himself Philofaxer The Filofaxer I assume...

You have to go back to the beginning of time to discover some of the mysteries of this blog... or about October 2005 if you want to be accurate...

But on your way back in time call in on this post... it will I hope make you smile..

[http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2007/02/public-service-announcement-pe e-ess-ay.html](http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2007/02/public-service-announcement-pe-e-ess-ay.html)

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-12-10 17:41:13)

It also avoids trade mark issues... but strange how Filofax didn't spot the spelling thing that allowed me to register <http://philofax.co.uk/> and yes it will bring you back here again if you try it!

Steph (2012-12-10 19:23:08)

Currently I had a papermate inkjoy fine point ballpoint pen in the pen loop of my personal chameleon, but I use papermate flair pens for colour coding and I use a black flair pen most of the time, but can't get it to fit in the loop.

Alice x (2012-12-11 08:35:20)

Well at least i was saying it right!

I did think that maybe the guy who started it all was maybe called Phil?

But then i couldn't find anyone on the About' page called that so it then confused me!

I was promoting philofaxy just today to a fellow student at uni...so you may soon have a new 'member'

zurimeansbeautiful (2012-12-11 09:25:20)

Yesterday I had voted that I used a ballpoint, but last night, my husband gave me my Christmas present - a Diplomat Traveller fountain pen! It fits in the pen loops of both my A5 Finsbury and my personal Adelphi. From

now on, I use fountain pen inside my filos! :)

LJ (2012-12-11 13:58:34)

I want to be grown up and use a fountain pen (maybe one day it'll happen), and I occasionally use a Frixion, but mostly I'm in the Bic gang. More often than not I'm using one of the Bic 4 colour (standard or fashion), but also love the bog standard Bic Cristal Medium ballpoint pen. :-)

Richard Cheesman (2012-12-12 11:49:18)

Fine liners, because I can write more in smaller spaces. Plus, the shape and size means I typically write notes in small caps, so it's much more legible.

Currently have 2 coloured Sakura Pigma microns in blue and red at 0.20mm, and a uni pin fine line in 0.5. Works for me but would love to use my fountain pens it there...

David Popely (2012-12-13 13:29:47)

Sorry, rather late to the discussion on this one. I use a Waterman fountain pen, and I also have two Parkers one vintage) and a Schaeffer also vintage). I'm still working to establish which is my favourite writing instrument, a project which could very likely lead to me leaving the Filofax camp altogether, as I've rediscovered just how much difference paper quality makes, and just how poor the FF paper really is....

Cruz Johnson (2012-12-13 14:08:21)

I have two Bic four-colours: one with red, green, blue, and black; the other with pink, light green, light blue, and purple. Eight colours in one Filo makes for great colour-coding!

Free For All Tuesday - No 97 (2012-12-11 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have.

So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v1l4ypHOYfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

jaj (2012-12-11 02:04:56)

Just to say : does anyone notice the great sale on Filofax Italia website : 70 % off on some ranges : Regency, Enigma, Deco, ... but postage is a bit high for Europe.

Suus S (2012-12-11 03:17:35)

I have recently bought a very beautiful Finsbury Antique Rose A5. I have been making the paper for the planner. I tried to print the diary inserts. I want to print them on the A4 paper, but I printed two on one side of the A4 and double side (so 4 on one A4 paper). No success! How can I print the diary inserts so that I can have them on landscape and double side?

Alison Reeves (2012-12-11 04:14:32)

OK - I've been waiting since Friday to ask this ...

I'm really interested in what goes on between the covers of the binder. So, having some time between Christmas and the New Year I am hoping to do some goal setting and planning for next year to make it a successful year for my business as well as personally. Can anyone share how they go about this and if they use any special sheets or just plain paper and any techniques (for example do you mind map)?

Alison Reeves (2012-12-11 04:16:23)

It's called booklet print and should be an option on your printer page.

I'm still mourning my A5 Finsbury in Antique Rose which my Labrador Bella ate last week :-)

Laurie (2012-12-11 04:23:59)

Alison I did a post awhile back on goal setting with your Filofax that might give you some ideas and get you started:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2011/10/setting-goals-with-your-filofax.html>

Suus S (2012-12-11 04:53:47)

Thak you very much for your input.

O, that is awful! But..... on the other hand a good excuse to buy a new one!

Alison Reeves (2012-12-11 09:12:13)

Thanks Laurie - will go and have a read.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-12-11 09:21:47)

Hi everyone! I want to know if anyone else feels the urge to be in a bound planner, despite having a gorgeous filofax?

I think my own temptation to be in a bound planner (pocket or A6 size, made out of a notebook that I customise myself) is because of slight planner fail, frustration at filofax's lack of quality control (although my new Ascot from Anita is perfect condition!), and the desire to be in something permanent which acts like a journal as well as a planner, unlike the loose-leafed format of filofaxes where I just lose my old planner pages.

My head says I should stick with my filofaxes, as they are so customisable to my needs, but my heart wants a smaller, bound planner, that won't have any ring issues ever!!

Paul B (2012-12-11 09:23:24)

Not exactly the cornerstone of a nutritious breakfast! Did she eat the contents too, and if so, how have you coped with losing info? While I always tell myself that my FF doesn't need batteries or syncing, I also don't back it up!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-12-11 09:23:38)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Laurie (2012-12-11 09:24:05)

How interesting! My post here on Philofaxy tomorrow is how to use your Filofax along with a (bound) Planerisms planner. Maybe it will give you ideas on how to use both so you don't have to give up your Filofaxes after all!

Alondra Karwowski (2012-12-11 10:07:53)

I have a small bound month on two page planner that I carry with me in my Filofax. Works fine for me.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-11 10:26:04)

Alison, I have a laborador, too. She's never eaten any of my planners but she did eat a lug nut cover for my son's car. My husband and son were changing the brakes and had 6 lug nut covers on the ground. She ate one and stole the rest. We recovered five by walking around the front yard but we think she ate the other one. What's funny is that she'll eat lug nut covers and rocks but certain types of dog food she won't touch!

Ling (2012-12-11 10:31:01)

Well, the only planner which makes me want to use bound planner happens to be the Plannerisms one. :-) But I know I'd miss moving pages around. I can't wait for a loose leaf version though.

Ling (2012-12-11 10:35:23)

A while ago I sold my Filofax Capri to Gail and there was another Philofaxy reader who wanted it badly, but Gail came first. I noticed there is one on Ebay, ending in a few hours. I didn't save the messages and forgot your name, but I wanted to mention it here, because they are so rare and I hope you read FFT. <http://tinyurl.com/af5yde3>

Steve Morton (2012-12-11 10:55:08)

Hidden away on Philofaxy so no one will ever find it... is this post:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/10/printing-your-own-diary-insert-s-hints.html>

I think you will find most of the answers you are looking for... if not you know who to talk to, email, etc....

Steve

Mani (2012-12-11 11:08:55)

Hi Everyone!

Just a quick question, does anyone use the filofax calculator? I think it would be handy to have, but wondering if it would bulk up the binder unnecessarily??

Jen (2012-12-11 11:31:35)

Can someone remind me - will Filo Personal pages fit in a FC storage case? I keep forgetting to check when I am at home and need to order. I'm also facing the dreaded "Do I switch companies?" question. FC has some nice binders right now and a diary that is almost exactly what I created for myself in my Filo. I can't remember how to modify the FC pages to fit a Personal Filo.

Sari (2012-12-11 11:32:25)

Yes, for the first time I really want to have a bound planner - although I love my Filofax(es). I am a long time FF/Succes user (since 1986) but the rings, the bulk and the weight of a ring bound planner are more and more annoying. So yesterday I decided to try something completely new and ordered a Plannerisms Planner ;-)) And after reading Laurie's comment I am really looking forward to tomorrow's post

Alison Reeves (2012-12-11 12:41:31)

Yes Jen - mine do.

kenounirenashin (2012-12-11 13:32:30)

Quick question to Holborn owners: The Hi Tec C Coletto 4 colour barrel - does it fit in the pen loop?

My (fantastic) other half is getting me a Personal in Wine (no zip) for Christmas and I've been eyeing the Coletto like a mad woman for ages.

Butanben (2012-12-11 14:04:29)

Just found some small red notebooks... mini sized, which fit beautifully into the pocket of my A5 Filofax. The paper inside is squared.... Huge Hurrah!! And even bigger Hurrah, the front cover design is a silhouette of city skylines, London mainly. Looks just like the Filofax Olympic ruler did, but in black and red. Discovered in the stationery aisle of Wilkinsons. Cheap cheerful and good find for your Filofax as the notebooks are thin. Boy did I want Filofax to bring out an A5 sized skyline page marker..... have discovered the next best thing maybe!!!!

Suus S (2012-12-11 15:04:25)

Hahaha, thank you Steve! I have been looking on both Philofaxy side as on yours, but could not find the description. With this blog it will be a success.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-11 16:48:07)

Yes, mine is fussy when it comes to dog food (as is the Jack Russell) their favourite food is the really cheap stuff with lots of e-numbers which makes them hyperactive.

Tim (2012-12-11 17:57:29)

It's Laurie's enthusiasm that got me thinking bound planner. She's got a great article on Plannerisns comparing the merits of ring binders v bound organisers. Like you planner fail had played a part but so has my streaming of paper systems due to buying an iPaf. I love the idea of having a year kept all together in one book. On the other hand, I'm worried that I'll quickly get fed up of carrying next December's blank pages with me everywhere and next December wondering why I've got to carry obsolete stuff from last January!

Lily (2012-12-11 20:05:17)

I still think novelty page markers would be huge sellers for FF and paperchase...

Cheryl (2012-12-11 22:21:25)

Alison we just adopted a jack russell/cavalier king charles mix. He's 7. Oh my gosh...love him to pieces but do they always jump in your face like that? LOL It kind of freaks me out. This dog needs alot of hand holding and has a few issues that need to be remedied (aggression, separation anxiety, poor door manners when someone rings the bell). We are working with him to turn him around. He's come a long way in 4 weeks but we have a ways to go. My first dog ever after 30 years of marriage and we get jumping jack flash. Yikes! (But at least he hasn't eaten any binders yet!)

swatibee (2012-12-12 02:32:33)

you are a lovely lovely person :-) that was me and I just saw this and while I missed the end of the auction by a few minutes it didn't sell so I've contacted the seller in hopes she'll sell it to me :-) thanks

gdigesu (2012-12-12 08:30:55)

Hi,

If I may ask, what progress has been made since the meeting of 26/nov with the manufacturer, if any. Ringers, paper, etc?

Cecilia Tudo (2012-12-12 10:16:08)

No. There isn't any function on the FF calculator that the most basic mobile phone wouldn't have. Plus if you have your FF then you can do calculations with pen and paper!

Cheryl (2012-12-12 11:38:56)

Does anyone know what type of planner Robert Pattinson used in Remember Me? (If anyone saw the movie) The 'journal' is featured quite frequently throughout the movie. He wrote in it often, was often seen carrying it around with him and in one seen as he kisses his girlfriend goodbye before leaving the apartment to meet with his dad (and his fate) the binder is shown open. I was quite surprised to see it had rings (!); 6 of them in fact in the same placement as a personal binder. However the cover of the binder is torn and tattered and looks to be a simple piece of leather quite like a Midori Traveler's cover. In fact, the first time I saw the movie I thought the journal was 'bound'; I hadn't noticed it had rings. I was intrigued to find out more about it so I skimmed through the movie to all the parts where the binder was featured and that's when I discovered it had rings. At one point in the movie he actually rolls the binder in half (or folds it) and the string or elastic that keeps it closed is wrapped tightly around the journal. It is so worn and tattered and you know that this is used all the time and is with him everywhere. It is seen once again for the last time on the ground with the pages flipping open in the breeze. I have been intrigued with this journal since I saw the movie over a year ago and have tried googling it and looking for a similar journal when browsing at Barnes and Noble. But I was looking for a flexible bound tall narrow journal not realizing it had rings!

Hey if anyone knows of the journal/binder I am referring to in this movie and has figured it out please let me know! Just curious if anyone wants to take a guess at what it might be.

Cheryl (2012-12-12 11:52:41)

I forgot to add this link where back in 2010 the journal 'prop' was for sale for \$4,999. There's quite a good description and picture of the journal (but not the make/maker).

<http://www.rememberme-film.com/2010/06/tylers-diary-for-sale.html>

David Popely (2012-12-13 13:33:17)

I've already bought a Paperblanks diary for 2013 - not sure if it will become my go-to planner as yet, but it's in the running. As I'll be getting a whole brand new empty room to work with as a study/office from 1st Feb, I'm thinking not only about the usual 'nuts and bolts' of layout, but also, unusually for me, about the aesthetics, and maybe having a lot more beauty rather than pure functionality. This is *very* much a work in progress (or rather a concept in progress), but a William Morris print week-on-two-pages diary is certainly an interesting starting point. Great paper quality too.....

Cruz Johnson (2012-12-13 14:05:07)

I'm really old-fashioned and hate using the calculator on my cellular, so I'll definitely be buying a calculator for my Filo.

Mani (2012-12-13 17:34:42)

@Cruz Johnson :exactly...I'm like that too...plus some times my phone acts up and the calculator takes ages to appear so I thought why not add the Filofax one...it seems thin enough and since I do keep my finances in the Filofax too, it would be practical:)

Web Finds - 11 December 2012 (2012-12-11 12:00) - Steve Morton

I think people must be busy writing Christmas cards instead of Filofax blog posts!!!.

So here are the latest Filofax posts from around the interwebs:

1. [1]Plannerisms Planner Worldwide Giveaway! - Plannerisms
2. [2]My First One - My Once Upon the Moon
3. [3]Filofax Therapy - Thoughts & Exploration
4. [4]Trifold Personal Templates - Filofaximile
5. [5]my filofax week #34 - Paperlove Story
6. [6]Filofax or Midori? - My Life All in One Place
7. [7]The Tell-All Planner - Well Planned Life
8. [8]Top 10 Diaries - Make 2013 Your Most Organised Year! - Organise My House
9. [9]Vintage-Serie - Teil 1: Finchley Vintage Rose - Filomanie
10. [10]End of Year Review - Stationery Happiness
11. [11]Recycling - LJ's Blog of Stuff
12. [12]Vintage - Serie Teil 2: Ascot - Filomanie
13. [13]Early Christmas Present from Filofax!!! Osterley Plum Diary!! :) - Layla's Make-up
14. [14]Chubby FC Compact-Revised Post. & \$@? Blogger! - Miscellany from a Filofax Fanatic

15. [15]A Pennybridge Too Far. - Filofaximile
16. [16]My layout.. finally. - AppleHead Threads
17. [17]My Filofax Week 11 - Glossette
18. [18]Don't Just Buy Your 2013 Calendar – PREPARE IT! - Homemakers Daily
19. [19]Circa – You Knew I Wouldn't Wait the Week - The Zeigeist of Zoe
20. [20]Regency Filofax - It's My Life
21. [21]Filofax Tour - This Humble Home
22. [22]Sorry - Hiatus to continue... sad news... - Imysworld
23. [23]Konstruktive Kritik an Filofax - Chaotic Perfectionist
24. [24]New and improved task pages to download for your Filofax Personal - My Life All in One Place
25. [25]My Planner so far... - Onigiri Sama ■ Say hello to an old friend of ours....

Blast from the past....

- [26]Cooling-off period
- [27]Public Service Announcement (Pee-ess-ay)

And here are the latest Filofax Videos:

IFRAME: [28]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/plLFg8UYjGE?rel=0>

IFRAME: [29]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/6-e7k7SUbo?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/12/plannerisms-planner-worldwide-giveaway.html>
2. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/12/my-first-one.html>
3. <http://www.thoughtsandexploration.com/2012/12/filofax-therapy.html>
4. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/trifold-personal-templates.html>
5. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/12/my-filofax-week-34.html>
6. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-or-midori.html>
7. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/12/the-tell-all-planner.html>
8. <http://www.organisemyhouse.com/top-10-diaries-make-2013-your-most-organised-year/>
9. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/12/vintage-serie-teil-1-finchley-vintage.html>
10. <http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.fr/2012/12/end-of-year-review.html>
11. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/12/recycling.html>
12. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/12/vintage-serie-teil-2-ascot.html>
13. <http://laylasmakeup.blogspot.com/2012/12/early-christmas-present-from-filofax.html>
14. <http://filofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/12/franklin-covey-not-filofax.html>
15. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/a-pennybridge-too-far.html>
16. <http://appleheadthreads.blogspot.fr/2012/12/my-layout-finally.html>
17. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/12/10/my-filofax-week-11/>
18. <http://homemakersdaily.com/dont-just-buy-your-2013-calendar-prepare-it/>
19. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/12/10/circa-you-knew-i-wouldnt-wait-the-week/>
20. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/12/regency-filofax.html>
21. <http://hellbettypayne.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-tour.html>
22. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/12/sorry-hiatus-to-continue-sad-news.html>

- 23. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.fr/2012/12/konstruktive-kritik-filofax.html>
- 24. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/12/new-and-improved-task-pages-to-download.html>
- 25. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.fr/2012/12/my-planner-so-far.html>
- 26. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2007/05/cooling-off-period.html>
- 27. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2007/02/public-service-announcement-pee-ess-ay.html>
- 28. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/pLLFg8UYjGE?rel=0>
- 29. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/6--e7k7SUb0?rel=0>

Layla (2012-12-13 05:46:07)

Thank you for featuring me on your blog!! I'm number 13!!! Haha :) Thank you xxx

Using the Plannerisms planner along with your Filofax (2012-12-12 00:00) - Laurie

I've had several people tell me they are interested in my [1]Plannerisms planners, but they are so attached to their Filofax they can't imagine leaving it for a bound planner. The good news is, you don't have to! Here are some ideas on how to use the [2]Plannerisms planner along with your Filofax.



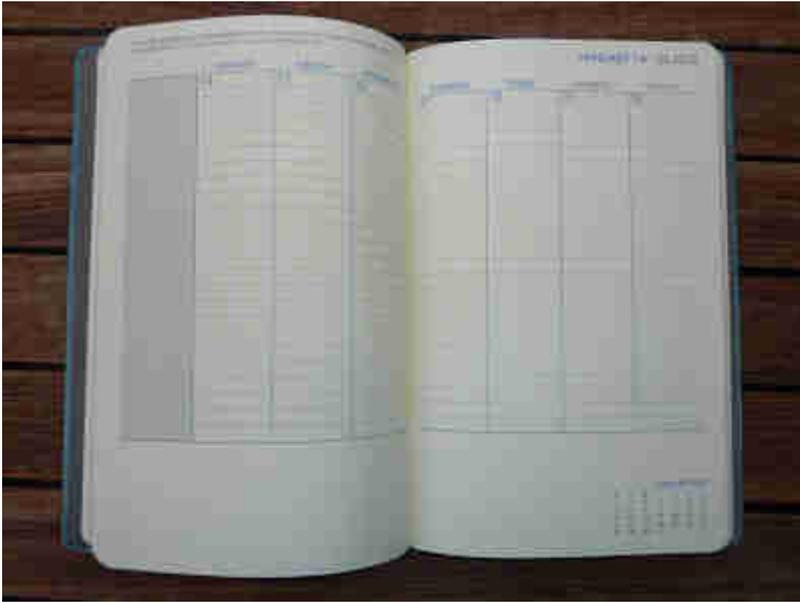
[3]

1. Use the Plannerisms planner as a Goals Workbook/ Journal and your Filofax as your planner/ diary. Recently on Plannerisms I wrote a long and detailed [4]post on how to use your Plannerisms planner as your Goals Workbook/ Journal (which you can click here to see). In that post I show you all the different types of Goals pages and give you suggestions and ideas on how to use them. I designed the Plannerisms planners with lots of pages for your Annual, Quarterly, Monthly and Daily goals. You can easily use it as a designated workbook/ journal for all your goals, separate from your actual planner if you like. [5]You can click here to see a video I made showing all the Goals pages and more ideas on different ways to use them.

2. Use the Plannerisms planner as your weekly planner and your Filofax as your daily planner/ diary and/ or information book (as I do). [6]I use 2 pages per day Franklin Covey inserts in my personal Malden Filofax to plan and record today only (click here for more details on how I use these). This gives me a thorough record of each day. I use my Plannerisms planner (currently self-drawn, switching to the new [7]printed ones in January!) for all future planning and goal setting.[8]

I've been using a weekly planner plus a day per page planner for nearly two years now. This system works great for me as an excellent combination of planning overviews and plenty of space for daily recording. [9]I did a detailed post on different ways to use the Plannerisms weekly pages, which you can click here

to see.



[10]

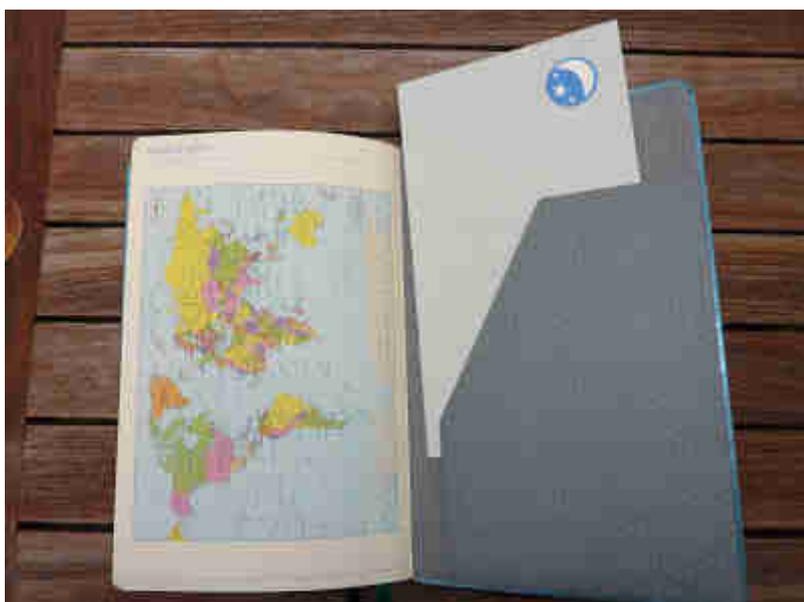
So what's it like to carry two books? The Plannerisms planner pages are approximately A5 size, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches but the book itself is much (much!) slimmer (at only 1/2 inch thick) and lighter than an A5 Filofax binder. When I use my Plannerisms planner along with a smaller Filofax as my information book and daily diary, the two books together are smaller and lighter than one A5 Filofax, yet I get the nice big weekly pages. Plus I like to be able to see my week in my Plannerisms planner open alongside my day in my Filofax for the daily details with the weekly overview to see what's coming up.

3. Use the Plannerisms planner as your household routines/ cleaning/ maintenance/ finances book. This is a great use for the Plannerisms planner if you want it to stay home. Use the monthly and weekly pages for your housecleaning routines, FlyLady Zone work, home maintenance schedules, gardening, and anything else that needs done around the house.



[11]

It's also great as a financial/ bills tracker. Use the Monthly calendars to track bills due and paid, write financial details and totals in the lined pages between each month, and tuck unpaid bills in to the back pocket so they don't get lost.



[12]

So you see, there's no need to abandon your Filofax to try out the new Plannerisms system! With Plannerisms and your Filofax you can have the best of both worlds, rings and bound.

For loads more photos of the Plannerisms planners Goals pages and other features, [13]click here for my detailed Plannerisms planner post and [14]click here for my video overview of the Plannerisms planners.

[15]Click here for the Plannerisms planners ordering page!

1. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/2013-plannerisms-planners-are-here.html>
2. <http://www.collinsdebden.co.uk/Diaries/2013-Personal-and-Fashion-Diaries/NEW-Plannerisms-Going-Places-Planners/Plannerisms-2013-Going-Places-Planner-HP-4400/>
3. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-fvnIr3gATdY/UMWwDds01nI/AAAAAAAAAE0s/Dp5AkfEFYWU/s1600/Plannerisms+planners.jpg>
4. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/12/using-plannerisms-planner-as-goals.html>
5. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVvXODp7hlU&feature=plcp>
6. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/malden-update-and-franklin-covey-dpp.html>
7. <http://www.collinsdebden.co.uk/Diaries/2013-Personal-and-Fashion-Diaries/NEW-Plannerisms-Going-Places-Planners/Plannerisms-2013-Going-Places-Planner-HP-4400/>
8. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/how-to-use-plannerisms-planners-weekly.html>
9. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/how-to-use-plannerisms-planners-weekly.html>
10. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-bPFfe3Y3oBbc/UMW1eqqBqYI/AAAAAAAAAE1A/VqjcQKYxy_k/s1600/2012-11-26+2012-11-26+001+025.JPG
11. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-aZRRm9Ee1N0/UMX3SdhIssI/AAAAAAAAAE1s/tClq-GBYIGw/s1600/2012-11-26+2012-11-26+001+022.JPG>
12. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-nNPDfk9IfHs/UMXKbjeZBJI/AAAAAAAAAE1U/tQ_Kp40NoGU/s1600/2012-11-26+2012-11-26+001+030.JPG
13. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/11/2013-plannerisms-planners-are-here.html>
14. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lHD_LDpvaig&feature=plcp
15. <http://www.collinsdebden.co.uk/Diaries/2013-Personal-and-Fashion-Diaries/NEW-Plannerisms-Going-Places-Planners/Plannerisms-2013-Going-Places-Planner-HP-4400/>

ArtJournal88 (2012-12-12 02:42:45)

I love this planner, hopefully I will win one, hehe.. otherwise I think I "have" to buy it .. :)

Tim (2012-12-12 02:45:02)

Instead of just moaning about the shortcomings of other products, Laurie has been very courageous and designed her own! She has put a lot of work and passion into the design, so they deserve to sell out.

Laurie knows that I'm disappointed that the size is not quite A5 and are annoyingly just 4mm too tall for a Flex

binder. However, this will hopefully be corrected in the future.

One other way of using them with a Filofax is to dismantle one with a craft knife, punch the pages and insert them as separate pages. This may seem mad, but at the price is still better value than buying official Filofax diary inserts - and better quality too. I may end up doing this myself . I'm sure it would work well in a slim binder.

natalie (2012-12-12 03:54:22)

Tim, just being cheeky here, but maybe you should be annoyed with Filofax for designing the Flex to be 4mm too small for a Plannerisms planner? I'm sure if we asked them nicely they might review it and make it bigger for next year :oD

Tim (2012-12-12 05:47:41)

Natalie - can you imagine their response? It would be unprintable for sure! It's not just the Flex issue though. Being a tad too narrow means you can't fold a piece of A4 once and slot it into the pocket at the back of the planner, for example. And documents kept in the diary pages (such as an agenda for a meeting) will stick out too. Laurie has a great concept that would be even better at A5.

If there are any left unsold (which I doubt) I would be very happy to spend an evening converting a batch into Filofax compatible inserts for folk who only want one binder and can't face being without a ringed system!

Alison (2012-12-12 06:28:29)

I love this planner, I purchased one last night in Teal to replace or use alongside my Filofax diary as yet i'm not sure. I may just use it for goals but until I have it in my hands I'm undecided. I've tried goals sections in my Filofax and failed miserably so maybe this will help :-)

Sandra (2012-12-12 06:34:04)

I have done the same! Teal planner as goal and longer-term planning. No failing miserably in 2013. Right?

Alison (2012-12-12 07:10:06)

Right! Haha, I'll certainly try my best :-)

Anita (2012-12-12 07:59:56)

I think these are fantastic. I'm tempted to buy one & take it apart to put in my filofax but trying to reduce my spending & use up what I already have.

I notice they're now only available in black & pink, so get one while you can :)

Laurie (2012-12-12 08:19:02)

Anita thanks for pointing out that only Pink and Black are listed on the Collins UK website. I have asked if they will get more stock of Purple and Teal and will let everyone know what I find out!

Cheryl (2012-12-12 09:58:28)

Sold! I'd like a Teal one so please let us know asap if more will be available. (2nd choice would be black and don't want to miss out on either before they sell out!) Great post by the way. I will use mine along with my Filofax. I'm thinking of its purpose as of now; it will either be a fitness goal setting planner and/or a job search planner as well all know when searching for work there are many daily, weekly, monthly tasks (tracking contacts, networking events, resumes sent, interviews, job clubs or workshops attended, follow up letters/emails, etc. etc.) Once a job is secured I would then start tracking professional development goals/tasks such as courses/classes taken, areas of improvement (goals and achievements), conferences attended and professional development hours earned, etc. This would be handy for your annual review with your supervisor and documentation of such activity.

At first I was concerned about the narrow daily columns on the weekly pages but now I see their usefulness for tracking and for lists. I think, like you, I would use day on 2 pages in my Filofax along with the Plannerisms planner. Until this past year, I had used FC day on two pages for over 20 years and I really miss it since I switched to Filofax binders with WO2P inserts. I do like the WO2P diary but am finding I miss having my daily to do's and space for daily diary in front of me. I'm excited to get started and quite truthfully will be glad when 2013 gets here already. In the meantime I will try to enjoy the holiday and not be stressed over the fact that my shopping is

far from done and the tree is staring at me with lights but no decor as of yet. Sigh.

natalie (2012-12-12 13:02:35)

Father Christmas has acquired one for me in Basic Black, and I have been very, very good and not opened it parcel so I haven't seen it in 3D at all.

Mine will be for goal planning and (importantly) review. I'll keep it in my zipped A5 Holborn so they are together but separate.

I'm thinking I need a fitness plan, a gardening plan, a textiles course plan, and those are just for starters.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-12 13:25:54)

OK - I've ordered in Pink of course. I plan to use this for setting goals and tracking them for the next year. Not sure whether to do personal and business together or separate - I'm thinking about that one!

Alison Reeves (2012-12-12 13:26:47)

PS They say it should arrive before Xmas - so fingers crossed as I want to do some planning between Xmas and New Year. If you ordered one did it come quickly?

Tim (2012-12-12 13:44:27)

Alison - quoted 5 working days, which I thought was optimistic as I think they were still in Singapore then! Came on day 5 though!

Stephanie (2012-12-12 14:19:37)

Laurie please do let us know if they get more teal in! I'll just get a black if they are all out, but I don't want to wait too long and have all the planners sell out in every colour!

Josh (2012-12-12 14:44:47)

I'm quite conflicted, as I definitely see the need for a better goal and project planning function in my planner setup but absolutely loathe the idea of two planners. I think what convinces me that looseleaf is ideal is that I can constantly adapt the one planner to fit my current needs. I really like the idea of the Plannerisms planner but every-single-time I've used more than one planner I've achieved mass chaos in short order. In the meantime, I'm adding some of Ray's monthly planner sheets into my personal filofax diary to help get the bigger picture on track.

Stephanie (2012-12-12 15:38:22)

Josh: I feel the same way.. I really need to be in one book. But a personal sized filo just doesn't allow for enough writing room for goals and planning, and an A5 is too large for me to carry around. Trying out goals in the plannerisms and then daily+monthly+yearly and all my blog+column+work planning in my filo. Hope this works!

Cecilia Tudo (2012-12-12 18:38:28)

Please let us know if more purples come into stock!!!

Laurie (2012-12-13 02:08:38)

Hi everyone, here's the update: Singapore is shipping more of all colors, and extras of Teal and Purple, tomorrow so Collins UK will have those all in stock next week, probably Wednesday. Sorry for the delay but they are coming! Yay!

Stephanie (2012-12-13 13:48:07)

Thanks Laurie!

Personal Size Organiser Comparisons (2012-12-13 00:30) - Steve Morton

Personal size Filofax organisers come in four different size variations. I thought it would be interesting to compare them together.

- Slimline
- Compact
- Personal
- Zipped Personal

Slimlines are available in 11 or 13mm ring size.

Compacts are all in 15mm ring size with either clasp or zipped styles

Personals are all 23 mm ring size

Zipped Personals come with either regular 23 mm or jumbo 30 mm ring sizes.

To show how they all vary I did a short video with a comparison between a selection of personal size organisers.

IFRAME: [1]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/igG9K0cTd1A?rel=0>

The advantage of having different sizes in the same paper size of course that you can choose the right size of organiser for the amount of paper you are carrying.

For instance during my recent trip back to UK I needed to add things like maps of London, a London Tube map, things I obviously don't normally need over here in France! So I swapped from my compact Malden in to a regular Personal Malden, I've now swapped back in to the compact.

So if you are a personal size Filofax user, which size suits you best?

1. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/igG9K0cTd1A?rel=0>

Alan Marshall (2012-12-13 01:14:42)

I may have been the person Steve referred to in the video asking about the differences among the personals. The Finsbury Slimline - which looked fine compared to the rest in the video - is the largest I would be able to fit comfortably in my jacket pocket.

In my briefcase, I also have a nondescript, no-name black leather binder (***) with 25mm rings that I am using for a project. An identical binder is at my desk and is used for a hobby. There are two more slimlines in the house, one that travels with me on CD hunting expeditions and the other used as the family phone book by the main phone near the kitchen. However, I am considering replacing it with a fairly compact cloth-covered binder that is sitting idle.

(**) these black leather binders were a steal! The leather is beautifully soft and I got them in a remnants bin for \$5 each!

I have several 25mm or larger binders that are used for nothing more than storage, along with a few box-board covered binders and three vertical Lefax boxes that store a plethora of Lefax and Filofax forms that I bought back in the 1980s and never used.

Now I want to do a systematic comparison between the Slimline Finsbury, the Cuban and the L'Agenda Modern at Laywines!

Tonya (2012-12-13 01:15:06)

As a new user I only have one filofax which is a personal Chameleon so its interesting to see the differences. I'm not sure if I've seen a compact close up and didnt realise the Holborn was so huge compared to the others. Good to know when making a choice.

Alan Marshall (2012-12-13 01:16:48)

"tine" s/b "tiny"

Too fast with the publish button.

John (2012-12-13 01:19:52)

I have my choice between a Slimline Classic, a 23mm clasped Guildford, a 23mm zipped Durham and an

earlier-version, 30mm zipped Durham. I find myself using the Guildford the most - for intangible reasons, mostly. The bigger Durham carries 1/4 more paper and is more water-resistant, but feels uncomfortably like a river stone in hand, and I'm surprised at how in-the-way the bigger rings can seem when writing. In general, the movement of zipping and unzipping seems relatively laborious.

The Slimline fits into a jacket pocket, and I'll use it for an evening out. However, with a week-on-one page calendar in, I already feel like I'm running out of journal or project paper (I tend to run through pages pretty quick).

I feel that the clasped 23mm is a Goldilocks size - large enough to carry enough, small enough to enforce discipline on how much paper you need. The clasp provides just enough security to hold things in with peace of mind while allowing access with an easy movement. It fits comfortably in my hand when full.

Paul Reynolds (2012-12-13 02:27:13)

I was interested to read this, as I have recently changed my set-up. I had been using a compact Holborn in combination with one of my personals (Cuban or Kendal) but have recently gone back to using my Cuban slimline - in the gorgeous "ink" colour, my favourite Filofax colour ever - as my everyday Filofax. The absence of a clasp on the slimline makes it so much easier to slot into a pocket, or file in a briefcase with other books, notebooks etc. The protrusion of the clasp on the compact offended my sense of neatness somehow - I was always conscious of a slight lump in my stack of documents! I wasn't aware that slimlines are also available with 13mm rings. I've just had a look on the Filofax website and the only slimline with the larger ring size is the Holborn - are there any others? I can foresee my Filofax collection focusing on slimlines in the future.

Anita (2012-12-13 03:12:15)

Thanks for a useful & interesting video, Steve. I've owned both slimline & personal, but only briefly handled compacts in a shop or at a meet up. I agree with John about the 23mm size being just right as I never felt I could carry enough spare notepaper in the slimline (along with all my other stuff) & I think the Cuban zipped looks too much of a beast to carry around on a regular occasion.

Anita (2012-12-13 03:14:16)

My Adelphi slimline has 13mm rings, Paul.

Paul Reynolds (2012-12-13 03:32:09)

Thanks Anita. I've never seen an Adelphi slimline in the flesh, but I've just been looking at your photos again, and I think I could be tempted by a black one! I actually quite like the popped pocket at the front.

Neil (2012-12-13 05:45:31)

I've always thought that another option for personal size users is to use two or more slimlines. Two slimlines will hold the same as one 23mm ringed personal, and gives the often overlooked advantage of being able to make entries in your diary whilst referring to other material, if you split your pages appropriately.

MTMTE (2012-12-13 07:32:23)

On a similar note, I saw a pocket pennybridge in store just last week, and I was horrified by how HUGE it was. Thin, sure, but the footprint was so big that it completely turned me off any form of zipped compact. As you say Steve, I can't understand why the Maldens and Pennybridges are so very large. Personally that size is absolutely cumbersome. The idea was great but poorly executed.

Cheryl (2012-12-13 08:52:04)

Hmmmm that's good to know. I was interested in a compact zip Malden if they ever become available again but it is so large I am now having second thoughts. Dollars saved I guess!

Cheryl (2012-12-13 08:59:25)

Well I have a compact Chameleon that is with me all the time but as I've said before there are times when I wish I had my personal Malden with me because there is info in there that I sometimes need when I am out. It never fails; I try to be 'compact' when out and about and then I regret not having certain info with me. I also find it interesting how the size of the binder can vary between styles. I kind of expected the personal Malden to be a bit

'larger' in footprint but I don't mind because it is so soft and flexible that it wedges in tight spaces (handbag) fairly well. I was surprised that my personal Chameleon is so much bigger than my personal Finchley. It's not that much bigger but seems like it because it is 'wider'. I love the size of my compact Chameleon and wish all my personals were that size (not the ring size, the footprint of the binder). I would prefer to use a personal size that was a 'trimmer' binder. I think Joshua said his Winchester is actually a bit shorter and narrower than many of today's personal size binders. That would suit me fine but its hard to tell which personals are 'smaller' in footprint because I don't trust the Filofax USA website's measurements that they post ... they seem to be inconsistent or wrong.

Cheryl (2012-12-13 09:13:21)

Duh that is a Winchester Steve shows in the video. I thought he said something else. So the Winchester as a personal is slightly smaller in footprint than other personals yet has the same 23mm ring size. I like that it's compact in over all size but has the standard personal rings. Now I couldn't tell in the video but does anyone know of another binder in the current range that would be the same size as the Winchester?

Stephanie (2012-12-13 13:53:56)

I have a personal Adelphi and I was wishing for bigger rings.. until I saw those monster rings in this video. I imagine that they would get in the way of writing! Plus I'm lefthanded so I always feel like the rings are in my way already. Looks like I'll just have to downsize what I'm carrying in my filo at the moment.. because I can't imagine going any bigger.

Neil (2012-12-13 15:50:16)

Regarding the "footprint" of many filofaxes, I've often wondered whether a personal sized, no frills binder, would be popular. A bit like a slimline, but 23mm rings and no pockets, and made in such a way to avoid "flatability" issues. Obviously, filofaxes with a multiplicity of pockets are great for some people, but I think Filofax should make a simple binder, preferably from a single piece of calf leather (ok, I know we're in flying pig territory here) and without the pen loop that probably doesn't fit the pen you use anyway.

Carla H. (2012-12-13 16:54:08)

I'm a personal sized Filofax gal all the way! I've THOUGHT of switching to pocket a few times just for more portability (when stuffed, my personals get pretty heavy!) but I could never get myself to write that small! It's nice to know there are so many options in the personal size range and they are all quite different. If I ever feel the need to "down size" I may just switch to a personal compact or slim model. Great video!

Paul Reynolds (2012-12-13 16:59:28)

Great idea - I'd buy one of those in a heartbeat. I totally agree about the pen loops. My preferred pen never fits (even with the elasticated ones) and the loop is just plain irritating to me.

No clasp + no pen loop + lies flat = Filofax perfection!

Alan Marshall (2012-12-13 17:09:53)

Those plain, cheap, \$5, soft leather binders that I referred to above, lie perfectly flat and have two pen loops, although they only take.

I would imagine that any decent shoe repair person could make a leather flap with a pen loop to your exact specifications.

industrious housewife (2012-12-13 17:39:00)

That zipped cuban is a beast! It looks so beautiful though.

I started out with an A5, which I loved and tried out the compact Pennybridge as a purse/notebook filo, but quickly moved to using a personal Malden as my main diary/project/planning filo as the compact Pennybridge was awkward as a purse and not big enough as a filofax at the time.

I do find that I don't always take my Malden out, and end up without a notebook and pen, which is what I was trying to achieve with the Pennybridge, so may rethink that in the future.

It's currently being used as address book, as I don't want that in my main filo. Until I find the perfect binder to

be an address book, probably a compact!

I still love my A5s by the way, but they are huge, and I like portability in a main diary/planning filofax, my two A5s are used for recipes/household issues, and for personal development/journaling.

Neil (2012-12-13 18:09:06)

I know the subject of today's post is a comparison of personal sized Filofaxes, but following on from the comments about how nice it would be if Filofax produced a no frills binder, preferably in quality leather, I think it would be a good idea if they checked out a recent sale on EBay.

A pocket sized binder, with no pockets, pen loop or press stud faster, and made with napa leather, sold for (wait for it) 62 GBP. It attracted 19 bids.

Come on Filofax, if you're reading this, how about catering for buyers who want a simple repositionable notebook, rather than an overblown "pleather" organiser. Moleskine affectionados are always decrying their inability to rearrange their pages. Why not offer a simple alternative, but make sure that you don't skip the quality of the leather, ok?

Josh (2012-12-13 19:42:49)

I was just eyeing my slimline Finsbury the other day wondering if I could move a less used part of my setup into it and carry it in my bag. I use the slimline to store my spare notepaper and it travels with me fairly regularly, I note that it really takes up no noticeable space in my bag. But as I've studied my usage of the various sections I see I really do use all of them on a regular basis and anything removed would likely be missed.

Josh (2012-12-13 19:51:39)

I must say that I deeply regret that Filofax no longer makes personal size binders with the larger rings. I used a 30mm ringed Cavendish for most of this year and loved the big rings. For some reason I don't share the "hard to write over" feeling which many other people note. The extra size makes gives a lot more capacity without the outside being substantially larger. I agree, 23mm rings establish a need for some restraint, but I'd *really* like to be able to get a few more months worth of diary into my filofax.

Cheryl (2012-12-14 13:21:26)

I would buy a no frills binder. I wouldn't mind if it had at least one angled secretarial flap in the front or back to slip in a business card or a piece of paper someone hands you but I wouldn't care about other pockets, zip pockets, etc. Although I love my Malden for the very reason that it has pockets of various sizes, I would have reason for a plain no frills binder as well and keep the Malden at home to hold extra stuff.

Alan Marshall (2012-12-14 17:52:21)

I had about 45 minutes free before an appointment today, so motivated by this topic (and some post-purchase cognitive dissonance) I stopped at Laywines, to compare the relative size of the L'Agenda Moderne binders with the slimline Filofaxes. The overall binder dimensions on the Cuban and Finsbury seem to be the same, but on the L'Agenda Moderne, the spine is about 5mm shorter and the binder is about the same 5mm narrower from spine to the outside where the clasp would be. The downside is that the L'Agenda Moderne is a bit thicker, I suspect due to the ring size being slightly larger - but I forgot to check that carefully. Also note that L'Agenda Moderne has heavier quality paper.

The clasplless L'Agenda Moderne slipped in and out of my jacket pocket more easily than either my Finsbury or the Cuban, The clasped version actually stuck so badly in my pocket on the clasp loop that I had to remove my jacket to extricate it. There is also no possibility to add a pen loop to it as the pen would stick out beyond the cover.

I compared them on flatability: Neither Filofax would lie very flat and of the three L'Agenda Modern that I opened, the two with softer, thinner leathers lay completely flat while a heavy, thicker leather model opened to about 120 degrees naturally.

The clasplless L'Agenda Modern is a beautiful option for someone wanting an agenda that will slip into a jacket pocket. But or now, I cannot justify the price, and I'll stick with my Finsbury.

Ally T (2012-12-15 06:40:39)

Great post Steve. I found this really helpful, thank you :)

Cruz Johnson (2013-01-05 01:24:50)

I think a Compact Identity (if such a thing existed) would be the perfect Filo for me. Two elasticised pen loops, horizontal card slots, and small rings good for a southpaw.

Free for All Friday, No. 213 (2012-12-14 00:00) - Nan

No matter what the weather or which holiday traditions you follow, this time of year brings a particular focus on...food! Do you use your Filofax to store your recipe collection, list dishes you want to try cooking someday, or jot down wine tasting notes? I'm guilty of the last two especially, much to the amusement of my tablemates.

Cruz Johnson (2012-12-14 00:14:13)

Can anyone tell me if Filofax makes a Compact or Slimline with TWO pen loops (preferably elasticated)?

Circus Life (2012-12-14 02:08:16)

The compact Osterley has two pen loops but I don't know if they are elasticized.

LJ (2012-12-14 02:15:58)

Please help - I saw a post on here sometime fairly recently (I think) by someone using an iPad mini in conjunction with their Filofax. I've been trawling through web finds but I can't find it. Is there anyone out there who remembers whose post it was?

Laurie (2012-12-14 02:30:38)

I thought that sounded like something Zoe would do, and sure enough! ;)

<http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/11/20/go-big-or-go-home/>

LJ (2012-12-14 02:45:31)

Thanks Laurie - you are a star!!! I knew it was one of the regulars, but just couldn't find it - that'll be because I thought the title would have had something technology sounding in it. Off for a read now :-)

Cruz Johnson (2012-12-14 02:55:06)

Thanks; I'll check it out.

Elke K (2012-12-14 03:56:19)

Compact Osterley pen loops are elasticized. :)

Doris (2012-12-14 04:18:10)

Indeed. Have just written a post about how I have just set up a Recipes Filofax. (:

David Popely (2012-12-14 04:27:32)

My Personal Hampstead has two proper, full size, non-elasticated pen loops - I love it!

David Popely (2012-12-14 04:33:19)

I'm going to go back on the paper quality issue today - because basically, if I can't solve it, it's 'goodbye Filofax, hello Rhodia notebooks' (or whatever).

I'm looking for good quality, Personal sized, pre-punched (because I'm lazy and I can't be doing with all that faffing about) paper with a smooth finish that will take a fairly 'wet' fountain pen without *any* a) feathering, or b) bleed-through, both of which are a feature of FF's current toilet-grade offering, and not much improved by

cotton cream.

Any suggestions that fit these criteria gratefully received.

I only need lined/plain paper, and I think I can sort out a diary from Mont Blanc/Aspinall/Smythson (at a huge cost, but it's time to get this sorted)

Have a great weekend y'all. I'm off to our new billet for a measuring-up weekend (big grin), so I won't be able to respond again until Sunday once we leave.....

Helen Conway (2012-12-14 05:08:50)

Nan,

I use my Jade A5 Finchley as a kitchen filo. It sits on the windowsill toning in nicely with the paint on the wall! I love to buy recipe books/ food mags but then I forget what is in them I wanted to cook or remember the recipe and can't find it. So in here I have sections by type of food (soups, bread, mains, baking, Indian etc) and a list of dishes and their location. I use the Oxford Active paper so I have a column to write in the date I tried them and a star rating to see if I want to repeat them. The filo also has some home sections for managing the house renovations and the purchases still needed.

I also have a flour inventory list in my bread section because I buy speciality flours when I see them (which is never locally sadly) and I need to know when their sell by dates are to remember to use them up or else they sit in a cupboard and I forget I have them. I also have a journal which just records my steps towards becoming an artisan bread baker which is one of my aims.

The best, most cunning bit however is the shopping inserts. I have devised a template which allows me to choose some things to try for the week ahead, jot down the ingredients we don't have and then I set the filo on the kitchen island and when my husband sees it he dutifully goes and gets the ingredients! It works a treat because I hate being in the mood for cooking and finding I don't have what I need.

Steve Morton (2012-12-14 06:14:57)

David

There will be a post on Monday about paper... as a follow on to the 'pen' post this week.

Have a good weekend

Regards

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-12-14 06:16:08)

I think Tim does as well.

UNchecked other (2012-12-14 06:55:35)

There's a wine pairing/wines to try section in Loki (compact Regency in yum) as well as a meal planner. Right now I'm also going to covert one of my Filos into a sort of food album with photos of memorable meals and recipes, sort of like an old school Pinterest :o)

UNchecked other (2012-12-14 06:59:02)

Osterleys have two elasticized pen loops, though they still groan when encountering Lamys.

Topaz has non-elasticized pen loops, and for some reason, the right pen loop on mine can accommodate thicker pens than the left.

Tim (2012-12-14 07:22:07)

I'm an iPad 2 guy. Can't afford an iPad Mini as well!

The larger iPads will fit in some A5 zipped Filofaxes (mine has been tried in a Time Manager zipped A5) as well as the new purpose built Filofax models. However, Like Zoe, I concluded that an A5 with an iPad of any variety, would be too big and heavy to carry around as one unit. So, my iPad has a simple hard case and goes with my "Filoflex" (Flex with a 13mm ring fitted). I'm almost certainly going to dismantle and punch my Plannerisms Planner and insert pages from that - but only the current months.

industrious housewife (2012-12-14 07:32:09)

I use my A5 red Domino as my household filofax.

Originally this was just going to be for 'food' related issues, but I've a small flylady/cleaning section and have started a household finances section, which will mainly be for tracking grocery spending.

I have master lists in it, for example a list of the herbs and spices in my cupboard I can quickly refer to when looking at recipes to see if I already have an item.

I have lists of ideas for meals eg. all the breakfasts we like to eat.

I also have instructions for seasoning a cast iron pan, how to make a good stock etc.

Then I have a set of A-Z dividers for recipes. I only have a few so far, but I'm trying to write in only ones I know I'll do and refer to.

At the minute I also have a dodopad, bought especially to use for meal planning, though this hasn't been used as well as it might. I'm debating whether to purchase the 2013 insert and continue, as it's a great thing to use and I don't think it'll work for me as a diary in my personal. :-D

Cassandra (2012-12-14 10:22:33)

I have been using Jenny's (plannerperfect.com) idea of making a list behind my monthly pages and foods are definitely in there for special occasion planning. Also I use post it's to plan suppers, a spin off of a you tube video (Audrey's wife life and her A5 gray malden).

Cassandra (2012-12-14 10:22:52)

I have been using Jenny's (plannerperfect.com) idea of making a list behind my monthly pages and foods are definitely in there for special occasion planning. Also I use post it's to plan suppers, a spin off of a you tube video (Audrey's wife life and her A5 gray malden).

Miss Lily (2012-12-14 10:40:22)

I have finally figured out how to combine my iPad mini with my filofax. I'm using Opus Domini Pro as my planning calendar and Filofax strictly as my "current day/written" calendar. I can do any and all future planning on my mini/iPhone including adding tasks. Then either the night before or the morning of I pull up the day electronically and transfer all appointments, tasks and notes the current day in my Filofax. It's working really well. Now I don't have to use multiple calendars in my Filofax to get different views (I hate having to write appointments in more than one calendar), I don't have to carry as much paper, and I get a written record as well. Syncing the app took a little work but it's totally worth it. It will sync appointments, tasks and notes so I them both on my iPad mini and my iPhone. Nice for when I just want to run out the door with just my phone and keys. I hope that helps!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-14 11:11:13)

I have a to-do list question. Wondering if anyone else deals with this issue & how they've solved it.

I use 2ppd and on Sunday sit down and plan my week. I write things down ahead of time - like on Thursday I need to prepare a birthday card. Friday I need to mail it. Tuesday I need to make a grocery list. Etc. So when I turn to a new day, it already has items written on it. And I add some more. I end of with a list of things I need to do but not HOW & WHEN I want to do them. I think this is where traditional prioritizing comes into play. You write your list and then go through with the ABC 123's. But that doesn't work for me. It's almost like I need a to-do list but then a "this is how & when I'm going to do it list." I need to write things in advance or I'll forget but then I need to figure out exactly how and when I'm going to do them. I have ADHD and am definitely time challenged. If I don't have a plan, I tend to do nothing. But when I look at the list for the day, I get overwhelmed and don't know where to start. That's why I need a list of tasks and then I need to figure out how and when to accomplish them. I'm tried putting them on the schedule part of the page but then I feel kind of claustrophobic. I prefer something a little looser - like morning, afternoon, evening - or like today - before the grandkids come, while they're napping, after they're back home. Two daily lists seems like overkill. Using a separate notebook, which I've tried, isn't awesome. I'm a one book kind of girl.

Does anyone have any brilliant ideas? I really need help on this.

Cheryl (2012-12-14 12:12:29)

I posted this on Tuesday's Free for All but didn't get it posted till Wednesday so not sure anyone saw it.

Just curious...does anyone know what type of planner/journal Robert Pattinson used in the movie Remember Me, if anyone saw it? The 'journal' is a key component of the movie and is featured quite frequently throughout.

<http://www.rememberme-film.com/2010/06/tylers-diary-for-sale.html>

The first time I saw the movie and the journal I thought it was a Traveler's Journal as it has a very worn and beat up thin leather cover. Upon second look I was surprised to see it has rings. A couple of times you actually see the binder 'rolled' in half and tied with the string or piece of leather that keeps it closed, that's how flexible the cover is.

I have been curious about this journal since I saw the movie over a year ago and wondered if anyone had spotted it. I found mention of it a few times around the web but no reference as to the make/model if such one exists.

Elise Seitz (2012-12-14 13:48:31)

I keep a weekly planner and add all my to dos to it at the beginning of the week and then keep adding to them as the week progresses. Like you, I get overwhelmed by the list and can't quite figure out what I'm going to do or how. Now, the night before, I make out a daily sheet (just a lined piece of notepaper), divide the day into morning, early afternoon, late afternoon and early evening then I slot in my to dos and appointments. If don't do it the night before, I wake up in the morning without a plan and tend to just scrap my to do list and go off and do other things. Not very productive! Hope this helps.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-12-14 13:49:16)

What about drawing a line to split the day section in half and keep fixed appointments on one side and then To-Do on the other side, in rough approximation of morning, noon or evening (of course, keeping an eye on when you're already busy and avoiding those bits)? Then you would still be 'time-boxing' to some extent but not too claustrophobically hopefully.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-14 14:04:16)

The only problem with that is that often there are already things written on the list that interfere with that strategy. I've tried writing in pencil and then doing a lot of erasing but that doesn't seem like a good way to do it either. I do keep to-dos and appointments separate most of the time.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-12-14 14:25:13)

What's already written? Sorry, I'm just not doing well with visualising the page - do you have a blog with pictures? I have similar issues, in that if I don't time-box (write when I am going to do something) but just have a big list of what I need to do, that I feel swamped. My solution (and I realise it's just my solution) is to have weekly sheets where I can write things down like birthdays and things that have to be done that week) then on my Sunday review, I assign these to rough areas of the days I have to do them on (if they are day-sensitive) or distribute them across the week (if non-time sensitive), depending on how busy my day is.

Any help?

gdigesu (2012-12-14 14:26:18)

David, hi.

If Steve's post on Monday does not say Filofax will solve the paper issue in 90 days, I will send you 1,000 (one thousand) 90g pages of high quality cream paper.

I said 1,000 (one thousand) 90g pages of high quality cream paper. Delivered to your home, free of any charge.

Let's wait for Monday and see what Steve has for us.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-14 15:17:57)

Amanda, I did a guest post on Plannerisms that showed my planner: <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/09/guest-post-from-patty-at-homemakers.html>.

I have monthly pages and then 2 pages per day (Franklin Covey). There's a section for a to-do list and a section for the schedule. The right side is blank for notes. On Sunday evening I sit down and plan my week. I write on the various day's to-do lists things I know I need to do. So when I turn to Tuesday, for example, I might have 5

things on the list already. Then I'll add a few more. At that point I have the list of things to do but no idea when or how to do them. Sometimes I have plenty of time to do them all and sometimes I have to pick and choose. Writing down when I'm going to do them helps me figure out what I can and can't do and keeps me productive. If I have a list, all day and no plan, I tend to do nothing. But there's not room for a schedule, a to-do list, and another list. That's what I can't figure out.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-14 15:19:49)

Elise, I've thought about doing that - a blank piece of paper that allows me to plan how I want from a master list. I wish there was a way to incorporate it into my regular pages but I'm probably asking too much. There's only so much room on those pages, even with 2 pages per day!

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-12-14 15:51:20)

what about using a post it note when you have to add things to your day on 2 pages in advance? then when you get to that day either the night before or in the morning write out your to do list with headings either morning, lunch & evening or before grandkids, naptime, after kids leave (you can also abbreviate these to something like instead of morning 1st, 2nd, 3rd priority: M1, M2, M3 Lunch 1st, 2nd, 3rd priority: L1, L2, L3, naptime 1st, 2nd, 3rd priority: N1, N2, N3)

Alison Reeves (2012-12-14 15:57:45)

I think I have similar symptoms to you! When using an A5 I have used the TM inserts which have loads of space (2 pages a day) and I tend to use this for work. (I'm trying to separate out work and personal else I just work all the time and worry about the washing when I should be working!). So I list everything, but I don't assign times. When using the personal I do the same (if I am using 2 page per day) otherwise I use some day timer hot lists and put items on there - so they are visible (i.e. I know I have to do them and don't forget) and I can move the list if I haven't done everything.

Ling (2012-12-14 16:53:13)

One of my favorite ringbound planners looks a lott like this one, not the same, but close. It's a (dutch) brand, called Succes and the model is designed by Dutch designer Fred de la Bretonière and is called Vintage.

http://www.succesagenda.com/Succes-Agenda-Fred-De-La-Bretoniere-Vintage-Zwart-Standard?filter_name=Fred

Neil (2012-12-14 17:16:42)

May I suggest one or two things. They're only my own thoughts, and there's no definitive right way, but here they are.

Firstly, consider removing any anxiety that may stem from having to conform to a particular diary format. Maybe you might need more than two pages for a particular day. What I do is use one sheet (two pages) per day, and then it's easy to slip in an extra page or two for those days where you really need some extra space to plan your day. Secondly, consider dividing up your "to do" lists, so that you can allocate some degree of priority, rather than having one enormous list. Try having five sheets, labelled A to E, using sheet A for your most important tasks and sheet E for your least important tasks.

Thirdly, keep your binder at hand, and at the moment you want to enter a task, make a decision to do it straight away, without even recording it on paper, to mark it in your diary because it is an appointment that is time specific, or enter it on one of your "to do" lists according to the importance you place on getting that task done. Prioritising tasks in this way may help you feel empowered.

Fourthly, plan your days by allowing yourself some time each day to do as many tasks from sheet A as you can, but scan sheet B when you have made your decisions about tasks on sheet A, and so on.

Fifthly, to avoid your "to do" lists becoming too long, try to "postpone" even thinking about some "to do" for a few days (or until a particular day in the week) by entering them in your calendar instead. I do this all the time, and find it helps me to think of my children's issues on a Sunday, and my grandchildren's issues on Wednesday evenings, simply by adding these "to do" in my calendar at the appropriate page, rather than my "to do" lists.

Sixthly, if you have a particular project, consisting of several related tasks, just create a sheet just for those tasks, perhaps in a different colour, and slip it into your diary at the date you want to next think about it

Neil (2012-12-14 17:23:16)

I must remember that my spelling is rubbish when using an ipho e keypad, lol.

I'll be publishing a description of my basic system on my blog soon, so look out for a filofax GTD post on web finds in the next few days. Hope these ideas have helped.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-14 20:55:39)

Thanks, Neil. I'm playing around with your suggestions and I'll be watching for that blog post.

LJ (2012-12-15 02:28:14)

That sounds like a good plan :-). Thanks for sharing - it looks like I won't be getting the iPad mini for Christmas, but I think I will check out Opus Domini on the iPad and see how I get on with it. If it works well for me I may see what my chances are of getting one the mini for my birthday :-)

Cheryl (2012-12-15 03:56:49)

That is very interesting! At first the picture made it look like an A5 but upon further reading it says its compatible with Filofax personal size. Wonder if the covers are very flexible and bendable. Thanks for posting this link! :)

Ling (2012-12-15 04:50:03)

The pictures and descriptions on that site don't always match, which is a shame, because it's the official site. It does come in different sizes and colors. 'Standaard' being the same as filofax personal, junior = pocket and Executive=A5, only the mini has different spacing. It truly is a high quality brand and in Holland it's better known than filofax. The covers are flexible and bendable, it's just a piece of plain leather and on the inside there are pockets from suede. Look:

<http://tinyurl.com/crqt6b>

Suus S (2012-12-15 10:02:42)

And if you need to get rid of your paper, very interested. I am also dealing with the paper issue for my Personal. I cannot find nice paper for her. If you do not what to get rid of the paper, can you tel me where I can buy it and the name of the paper?

Alan Marshall (2012-12-15 12:45:15)

Suus: Look at the refills for L'Agenda Moderne.

Babs (2012-12-15 13:00:40)

Helen

That is a really clever set up! I've been playing around with different set ups for a while but I like the idea of referencing recipes. I think I'll try this out once we move home!!

Thanks for the inspiration!

David Popely (2012-12-16 11:31:59)

That's a very kind offer, thank you. Steve, i *do* think enough time has now passed for us to be expecting movement on the issues raised at the meeting of 26th November.....it seems that Filofax are in the process of kicking this into the long grass, as they have done on previous occasions. I believe that's very disrespectful to those of you who made the trouble to attend (as well as those who nearly attended but couldn't). This seems to be their standard way of dealing with things, "We'll look into it".....not good enough. If we don't get some concrete responses (actions, not words) I propose we organise another word-of-mouth offensive and that this time we aren't so reasonable in easing off on the basis of promises.....

Steve Morton (2012-12-16 12:42:03)

I don't quite know what you are expecting to happen in just three weeks?

I hardly think it's enough time for Filofax to source new/better quality paper, scrap their entire production for 2013, reprint their entire range and restock everywhere whilst absorbing the cost of this complete new production of products across the whole range of sizes and types of inserts diaries etc?

I will be able to up date you on the on-going relationship tomorrow, but you might be disappointed in what has been achieved or not in the space of 3 weeks since our meeting.

Personally I'm remaining positive about what has been achieved at the meeting and since then. I still believe the real benefits of this relationship will be in the future, in some cases the distant future given production and product cycles.

I was too long a civil servant to know that big organisations are like super tankers, once you have got them moving or if they are moving, it takes a bit more than a nudge to make them change course, but work with them and they will see the benefits of our suggestions and change course.

Thank you for your on-going interest and patience.

Steve

David Popely (2012-12-16 12:54:27)

hi Steve

Sorry to be ornery, but.....it's not just three weeks, is it. Filofax have had more or less identical feedback at least twice in the past to my knowledge, and each time they have successfully steered their so-called 'valued' customers into the sidings with no solid response whatsoever. Personally I don't think Filofax is a 'supertanker' at all - if they were a Glaxo Smithkline I might. I consider them to be a very small vessel indeed compared to the multinationals of this world, most of whom have learned to respect their customers, we who pay their wages, far more than Filofax. It's tempting to reflect again that this meeting was only offered as a response to bad word of mouth reaching a level where they felt they had to head it off. If there is nothing but patience forthcoming from our side, they have every reason to do what they have already done in the past - nothing. They were motivated into this by the 'stick' of bad word-of-mouth, not by the 'carrot' of improved customer relations in the future.

Real change *is* possible in a short time scale - if they are/were motivated enough. The fact that we haven't even had any 'interim' feedback speaks volumes. Three weeks? If I have a serious problem with a client I can respond in three hours, or even less.

LJ (2012-12-16 13:24:39)

They are still being sold though right? They may not be in a position to undertake heavy investment at this time either... I would be surprised if they were to start making huge changes to their production etc when they are in the process of being sold (whatever stage they are at in the process right now). I'm not defending their prior lack of action in any way at all, but given the current situation I would imagine that anything they do or say is being given more careful consideration than before...

David Popely (2012-12-16 13:27:09)

So far as I know they're still being sold to Clairefontaine, a *proper* stationery company. Agreed, they have every reason to sideline all of this process, as they may well be (and some may say justifiably) without jobs after Spring 2013. Clairefontaine also make Quo Vadis diaries, which have excellent paper quality....

David Popely (2012-12-16 13:29:27)

Sorry....Clarefontaine

gdigesu (2012-12-17 09:51:32)

90 days are not enough.

It is a big organization.

Fine.

Question:

How many days does the manufacturer need, if we may ask.

Web Finds - 15 December 2012 (2012-12-15 00:00) - Steve Morton

Christmas.... everything is slowing down! I might go back to one *Webfinds* a week if next week is as low in numbers as this week.... but we will see....

However, here are the latest Filofax Blog posts from around the internet:

1. [1]FREE Weekly/ Daily Calendar!!!! - Lime Tree
2. [2]Vintage-Serie - Teil 3: Dundee - Filo-Manie
3. [3]Flexin'! - Katie Louise Halsall
4. [4]Circa Take II – Yet Another Levenger Box Arrived Today - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
5. [5]An Early Visit From Santa - Friday, I'm in Love
6. [6]Time to move away from Filofax? - Just an Essex girl
7. [7]On-The-Go Companion to Your Filofax - Glossette
8. [8]Guildford extra slim! - I love my stationery
9. [9]Personal Portland Wrap-Up... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
10. [10]One Diary for 2013 - The Ideas? - Imysworld
11. [11]Blogmas Day 12: Slimline Metropol Filofax - Within Dreams We Live
12. [12]Filofax Love – Part 1 - The Studentista
13. [13]Nachtrag - Konstruktive Kritik an Filofax - Chaotic Perfectionist
14. [14]Recipes Filofax - The Storage Studio
15. [15]Filofax update; Back in my Filofax Regency again! (For now ;) - My Filo World
16. [16]I finally got a Baroque - Heather Holistics
17. [17]Solving The Insert Question - Daily Thoughts and Random Ideas
18. [18]Shiny red Mulberry has arrived - Paper Pens Ink
19. [19]Vintage-Serie - Teil 4: Balmoral - Filo-Manie

And here are the latest Filofax videos:

IFRAME: [20]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/1CUxKyX2yrg?rel=0>

IFRAME: [21]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/3X8u1uC8iSI?rel=0>

IFRAME: [22]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/eV6ZWriTIZI?rel=0>

IFRAME: [23]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/-tYjYTu6HGs?rel=0>

IFRAME: [24]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/8UgqVxdKTJQ?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://www.limetreefruits.com/2012/12/free-weekly-daily-calendarhtml>

2. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/12/vintage-serie-teil-3-dundee.html>

3. <http://katielouisehalsall.wordpress.com/2012/12/11/flexin/>

4.

<http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/12/11/circa-take-ii-yet-another-levenger-box-arrived-today/>

5. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.com/2012/12/an-early-visit-from-santa.html>

6. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/12/time-to-move-away-from-filofax.html>

7. <http://makeupgeek.wordpress.com/2012/12/12/on-the-go-companion-to-your-filofax/>

8. <http://ilovemystationery.blogspot.fr/2012/12/guildford-extra-slim.html>
9. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/12/personal-portland-wrap-up.html>
10. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/12/one-diary-for-2013-ideas.html>
11. <http://withindreamswelive.blogspot.fr/2012/12/blogmas-day-12-slimline-metropol-filofax.html>
12. <http://thestudentista.wordpress.com/2012/12/06/filofax-love-part-1/>
13. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.fr/2012/12/nachtrag-konstruktive-kritik-filofax.html>
14. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/12/recipes-filofax.html>
15. <http://myfiloworld.com/filofax-update-back-in-my-filofax-regency-again-for-now/>
16. <http://heatherholistics.blogspot.fr/2012/12/i-finally-got-baroque.html>
17. <http://stormberry.blogspot.fr/2012/12/solving-insert-question.html>
18. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/12/shiny-red-mulberry-has-arrived.html>
19. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/12/vintage-serie-teil-4-balmoral.html>
20. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/1CUxKyX2yrg?rel=0>
21. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/3X8u1uC8iSI?rel=0>
22. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/eV6ZWriTIZI?rel=0>
23. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/-tYjYTu6HGg?rel=0>
24. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/8UgqVxdKTJQ?rel=0>

Suus S (2012-12-15 09:58:12)

Always looking out for the Saturday for the web findings. Just love to see what other people do regarding there filofax.

Angain Steve, great job!

The Thoughts of a Dragonfly (2012-12-16 14:20:42)

Wow! I am so honored to be on your website! Thank you so much for posting the video of my new personal Malden! (:

Reader Under the Spotlight - Patty (2012-12-16 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Today I would like to introduce you to Patty.

Hi, I'm Patty. I'm from the Midwest United States and I love planners! I'm a full-time homemaker - sort of. I babysit my 3- and 2-year-old grandkids every chance I get; I do the books for my husband's construction business; and I run a blog [2]Homemakers Daily

I've been married 31 years to my husband, David, and we have two grown married children. My son and his wife have the grandkids and they live across the street - yeah for me!

David and I like to buy old, disgusting houses and turn them into something beautiful. No house is to awful for us. One of the houses we bought was filled with mice - we caught 24 in the first two weeks. Our current home had snakes! We had 3 in the family room and 7 in the laundry room in the basement. I wasn't thrilled about that - it almost made me want to hang up my remodeler hat!

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

I bought my first Filofax in August of this year. It was a Personal Vintage Pink Malden.

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

I've used Franklin Covey since 1993. I've dabbled with Day Timer and Planner Pad but I've always ended up back with Franklin Covey. After all those years with Franklin Covey, I'm ready for a change so I'm trying Filofax.

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

I really like the Personal Malden. The leather is so soft and beautiful.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I just got a Personal Holborn in brown.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I use it for my daily planning, journaling (on the daily page) and keeping track of information. I also use it for my blog although I'm tentatively planning to have all my blog information in the Holborn and the rest of my life in the Malden. I've never used two planners before so I'll have to see how it goes. I'm really a one planner kind of girl.

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

Most. Well, I'm not sure I can narrow it down to "most". I like the binder selection. There are SO many that I like. With Franklin Covey, it always took a lot of waiting to find one that suited me but there are a bunch of Filofaxes that I like. I like the plain planning pages. I'm easily distracted so less is better. I always bought the plainest of the Franklin Covey pages. I also like that on the 2ppd there are 10 boxes for to-do's. Sometimes I get overwhelmed making a to do list so I limit my list to just 10 items. It helps me prioritize better and think about what really needs done. When I saw that the 2ppd had 10 boxes, it seemed meant to be.

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

It would have 2 pen loops and they would be big enough to hold any pen (that's my only complaint about the Malden - my pen won't fit in the loop). It would also have slightly bigger rings.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

It sits on my desk or kitchen countertop at home. When I'm out, it's in my purse.

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

I'd kind of like to have a Metropol. I'm a bit of a binder snob in that I really only love leather. But I like the fact that the Metropol has two pen loops and some of the colors are gorgeous! It just looks fun. I'm trying not to buy it but I may succumb.

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

The Personal Malden was \$70. Ouch!

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

I love being around like-minded people. Most of my friends and family don't really care about planners. I was really excited when I discovered that there were a whole bunch of people out there who loved planners, too.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

Nothing.

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

You know, I don't listen to music much. I have ADHD and music is a distraction. So I don't listen. I like silence! However, I am going to get some children's music for my grandkids. They love music and I don't have any for them to listen to. I'll probably get some Veggie Tales as soon as I figure out how to do it.

Thank you Patty. And if anyone else would like to feature as a 'Reader Under the Spotlight' please contact us at philofaxy at gmail dot com

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5G5Wcv9tpyc/ULhEicCaWRI/AAAAAAAAO5A/IYCnpL36Pw/s1600/Patty+Photo.jpg>

2. <http://homemakersdaily.com/>

Josh (2012-12-16 00:28:05)

Nice to "meet" you, Patty! I too have ADD and find a lot of music to be distracting, but I discovered a local station that airs classical music 24/7 and I just leave that on all day long. It was sort of "white noise" at first,

but after a few years I'm starting to really know the composers and their music and it's opened up a whole new world to me. Of course, that's the "gift" of ADD, we get off on these distractions and learn a whole new world... Unfortunately, sometimes forgetting something else in the process.

Lime Tree (2012-12-16 01:48:23)

Nice to meet you Patty! Your first one was already a "top notch" Filofax! So yummy, hehe.

I did not know music is a distraction for people with ADD. Makes sense why I LOVE silence and feel much more comfortable in it despite having a music degree :D

Cheryl (2012-12-16 03:07:53)

Hi Patty, except for the snakes and the mice we seem to have a few things in common. Been married 31 years as well. Live in the midwest (Michigan). Have used Franklin Covey since the early 90's as well (lost track as to how many FC binders I once owned) and then earlier this year switched to Filofax. I had some very nice FC binders but lately the selection was poor, even if quality was fairly good and consistent. The thing that bugged me about FC in the last few years is that even though I liked the Classic size, I typically used the compact size. But the width of the compact just annoys me; I like the trimmer footprint of the Filofax binders. Of course, my favorite FC inserts (Day on 2 Pages) does not fit well in a Filofax binder and I really miss those inserts. I also prefer less clutter on my inserts. In the beginning, I would use the Seasons style and whatever new and pretty inserts FC offered. But over the years I found those designs just too cluttered for my taste. I prefer to use the Day on 2 pages but have not tried the Filofax ones yet; wasn't sure I would like that layout. It seems the FC ones have much more diary space. I also use a Personal Malden. I have messed around with Day Timer, Day Runner and every other planner made available but always went back to FC. But I plan to stay with Filofax; I'm simply smitten (even though I don't always love it when there are quality issues with the binders or paper quality issues). One thing I don't like about Filofax inserts is that I like tabbed monthly dividers with my daily or monthly pages in between like the Day Runner and FC style.

Anita (2012-12-16 05:50:48)

Lovely to 'meet' you, Patty!

A woman after my own heart as Malden & Holborn are my favourites, & I prefer plainer inserts as otherwise I just find them too busy for my eyes.

janet (2012-12-16 06:42:33)

Nice to meet you Patty! I am a leather snob too but I love Metropol. They feel like leather and are extremely hardwearing. Don't look or feel cheap and nasty at all!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-16 09:49:39)

Definitely true, Josh!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-16 09:50:32)

Yeah - especially music with words. I find myself listening to the words instead of concentrating on what I'm doing. I don't think that's true of everyone with ADHD, though. But definitely me. I need silence!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-16 09:52:54)

Agreed, Cheryl. We do have a lot in common.

I'm using the Filofax 2 pages per day and I'm getting used to it. However, I also ordered some Day Runner 2ppd that I'm going to look at. They're a similar style to the FC 2ppd. I should get them on Tuesday and I'm anxious to see if they'll be the perfect solution - FC type inserts with a FF binder.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-16 09:55:49)

Plainer inserts are the way to go for me, too.

However, I'm back to one binder - the Malden. My daughter needed to make a change from a very heavy Classic FC that she wasn't really using so I let her have my Holborn. I hadn't set it up yet. She was pretty excited to give it a try and couldn't believe how much lighter it was. Now 'm trying to decide which FF I want to get to replace

it. I liked the Holborn but I didn't like the brown.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-16 09:56:26)

I'm a leather snob, too - that's why I haven't taken the plunge. Leather just looks and feels so wonderful! What about a Finchley?

LJ (2012-12-16 10:17:07)

Hi Patty, nice to meet you. I would just like to say that I love your blog - it is great :o)

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-16 12:32:02)

Thanks, LJ.

Claudia Volkman (2012-12-16 12:38:27)

Hi Patty! I too am a long-time Franklin Planner user (and grew up in the Midwest), but my love of Filofaxes began on a business trip to London in 1998. My dream would be the plan FC day on two pages, monthly pages with tabs that would fit a personal Filofax (sigh). Same problem with the quality of the FC binders, too - and they are just so bulky and brick-like. I just ordered a personal Malden in purple and am eagerly awaiting its arrival!! I read another post by you where you talked about using the Monthly Index - that's another good FC feature. How will you recreate that in your Filofax?

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-16 13:50:58)

Hi, Claudia. Good question about the Monthly Index. I purchased Day Timer tabbed monthly pages that have a spot I can use for the monthly index. I haven't decided if I'm going to use them or try to just use FF inserts. If I use FF inserts, I'll probably make a separate page for the Monthly Index. It's not as slick as having it on the front of the monthly page but it'll work. I've gotta have that monthly index or my system won't work as well. I keep track of a lot of information that I need to be able to retrieve easily.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-16 15:03:15)

I think I meant Finsbury.

Kelly Marriott (2012-12-17 08:47:40)

Hi Patty. I wonder if you could share your setup with us. How do you have your tabs arranged? Do you use your personal Malden for goal setting? I've seen some of your setup on your blog, but I would love to know how you have your tabs arranged! Do you also use a weekly view in addition to your 2ppd inserts?

Cheryl (2012-12-17 09:53:47)

I was wondering if the Day Runner 2ppd comes with a monthly calendar (on the tabbed pages like the FC) and if so, is it month on a 2 page spread (preferably!) or month on 1 page (kind of useless!). I checked out the format of the Day Timer 2ppd and it comes with a monthly calendar on the tabs and the daily pages are interleaved. But the monthly calendar is on 1 page and the boxes are very small. I also think I like the format of the Day Runner 2ppd better than the Day Timer because the Day Runner is more like the FC style. Anyway, thanks for pointing this insert out because I thought Day Runner only made these in the larger 'classic' size so I went back to the website and read 'the fine print'...haha.

Jotje (2012-12-17 15:50:27)

Kelly, there was a quite extensive guestpost from Patty on plannerisms.com. You'll find lots of pictures of her green FC Compact there aswell!

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-17 17:13:27)

Kelly:

I'm just getting my Malden set up. I really don't have a lot in there yet. I'm using the 2ppd with a tabbed monthly calendar from Day Timer. I have A-Z tabs in the front for filing various topics and A-Z tabs in the back for addresses. I do not use weekly. Sometimes I do a weekly plan sheet (a form is on my blog) to plan the week

but I don't usually refer to it again. It's more for giving me the big picture of the week. It helps me see what's going on so I know when I can get various things done.

I'm tentatively planning to do an article on my blog on Thursday showing my plans for 2013. That would probably answer your question.

And like Jotje said, there's an article on Plannerisms about my former Franklin Covey set-up. I'm transferring some of those techniques over to the new set up.

But check my blog on Thursday.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-17 17:17:18)

I got the Day Runner 2ppd today in the mail. I LOVE the monthly calendar. It's set up pretty close to the FC Compact - two pages with space to write notes or monthly index on the front and back.

The daily pages are set up like FC 2 pages per day but they end at 5:00 with one little time slot for the whole evening. That's not going to work for me. I have a lot going on in the evening's, too. I didn't notice that when I ordered them.

So I'll use the monthly calendar but pass on the daily pages. I'll try to figure out something else to use those for. Did you notice on the Day Timer site that there's only one option for portable (same as FF personal) 2 ppd? Coastlines. I don't like that one. They used to have four or five more options. Wonder what's up.

Kelly Marriott (2012-12-17 21:16:35)

Thanks Patty! Love your blog.

Laurie (2012-12-18 01:58:28)

Hi Kelly, here is the specific post where Patty shows her setup: <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/09/guest-post-from-patty-at-homemakers.html>

Philofaxy Meet Up - SW England (2012-12-17 00:00) - Steve Morton

Please see the message below from Kate about a Meet Up in the New Year.

"Hi guys!

I am starting to plan a meet-up in the South-West of the UK for early 2013. It is in the very early stages of planning, but so far I am thinking of it taking place in Exeter (Devon) city centre at some point in January!

If you are interested in coming, or have any suggestions for places to visit, please email me (Kate B a.k.a. TPS) on bernasconiray@hotmail.com!

Thanks, looking forward to seeing you! The more the merrier!"

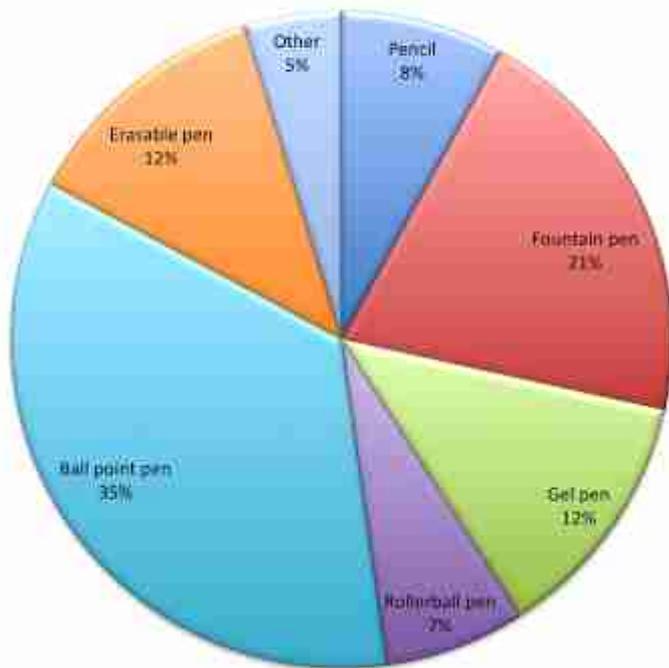
David Popely (2012-12-17 14:56:39)

hi Kate - would definitely be interested, as we are moving to Somerset 1st Feb (so can't do before that) - keep me posted!

Pens Poll - Result (2012-12-17 11:00) - Steve Morton

Thank you to everyone that took part in our 'Pen' poll, as you can see from the results the ballpoint pen remains a popular writing instrument for most people. Not far behind is the fountain pen.

Which writing instrument do you use in your Filofax?



[1]

Obviously the ballpoint will write on any paper without any bleed-through issues, they are very portable, the refills last months sometimes longer.

The fountain pen is a little more tricky, I've certainly had them leak in the past. But of more concern to Filofax users is their performance with the currently available paper.

At the weekend I tried out a couple of fountain pens on some of the different paper I have here:

- Filofax 'white' 70 gsm - As we know there was some bleed-through, not major but potentially annoying
- Filofax 'coloured' 70 gsm - No bleed through, it performed even better than the white paper and I was quite surprised at this, but I will come back to this paper in a moment.
- Filofax Cotton Cream - Excellent with my sample fountain pens, although the ink did take longer to dry on this paper.
- Rohdia 80 gsm jotter pad - no bleed-through and it takes the ink well no feathering
- Datacopy 80 gsm copier paper - No bleed-through issues, but the ink did feather a little.
- 'Bristol' paper, although this is in excess of 100 gsm, no bleed through and no feathering, it even performs well with solvent heavy CD marker pen without bleeding through! But you won't get many pages of this weight in to a Filofax.

So only a small sample, but then I remembered back to the meeting in November with Filofax, the coloured Filofax paper isn't dyed, but printed, so the colouring might be acting as a further barrier to the wet fountain pen ink?

I jotted this down then promptly forgot about it until I saw a You Tube video at the weekend and the person on the video made a similar comment that the coloured paper performs better than the thin white Filofax paper, it jogged my memory.

The realm of 'Fountain Pen Friendly' paper is quite a difficult problem to solve. The paper has to not absorb the ink too much, yet it has to be receptive to it so that the ink dries quickly on the paper, this is particularly important for left handed users if they are going to avoid smudging what they have just

written with their own hand.

My tests weren't exactly scientifically performed or conclusive but having seen others make similar observations I don't think they are too far wrong. The performance of the thin paper might vary with the type of ink used? But the coloured Filofax paper was the surprise of this test.

Have you tried different ink on different papers to see if it makes a difference?

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-4Xc09M1tyGI/UM83yendtSI/AAAAAAAAATo/n1PL7oH_TT4/s1600/penp011.png

Fegrig (2012-12-17 13:43:32)

Have a couple of great looking fountain pens that work very well but can't use them as they leak whenever I fly so sadly they have to sit at home, so whether the paper bleeds or not is irrelevant. Pencil is the choice for me, no leaks, bleeding or drying up. Works perfectly assuming I've packed the pencil sharpener.

SSA (2012-12-17 13:43:43)

I find the colored Filofax paper repels the fountain pen ink. I am also left handed and the ink smudges all over the place when using the colored paper. I stick with cotton cream.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-17 13:59:39)

I find if you use a finer nib it can help - and of course some inks are 'wetter' than others. My ink 'puddles' on the coloured paper due to the coating. The Cotton Cream seems to be the best out of the Filofax paper - but Rhodia and Clairefontaine are usually superb.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-17 14:00:27)

Steve - do we know if Filofax have any plans to investigate providing a range of better quality paper?

Paul Taylor (2012-12-17 14:54:34)

Even Rhodia and Clairefontaine (actually the same company - Rhodia often use Clairefontaine paper) aren't a guarantee of good paper. The Rhodia Webnotebook (Moleskine clone) in its early incarnations had 80gsm Rhodia ivory paper which was decidedly below par in terms of performance with fountain pens. After a period of shocked negative feedback from Rhodia diehards, the paper was replaced with 90gsm Clairefontaine paper in a similar ivory shade which is of dramatically better quality.

Of course this does prove that paper companies can and do listen to their customers and improve their products accordingly.

Now if only Filofax would buy in a lightweight paper from a name manufacturer and turn it into inserts. MMMMMMMmmmmmm Rhodia personal pages... mmmmmmmmm.

Well I can dream, can't I? in the meantime I'll just have to continue punching Rhodia paper for my files.

Steve Morton (2012-12-17 15:21:52)

I was supposed to be talking to them today about a variety of things but we have a problem on our phone line in that we can't make outgoing or receive incoming calls at the moment, all calls go straight to the France Telecom answer phone!

We have reported the fault but the technician will not be calling until Thursday... so it will have to wait and with Christmas getting closer and closer I might not have any news until the New Year... But I will email them tomorrow

Steve

Lily (2012-12-17 16:05:54)

I agree with the above poster - although there is no show-through with the coloured paper, I find my fountain pen ink just sits on top and smudges really easily.

Steve Morton (2012-12-17 16:11:27)

What ink are you using. I've tried Parker Quink and the other pen is a Pilot Vpen which is a pre-filled disposable fountain pen. Unless anyone knows different I don't think you can refill them?

Steve

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-12-17 17:20:23)

I've seen lots of people complain that Filofax brand paper won't take fountain pens. Well, I think it's a balance between the fountain pen nib-type and the ink.

A thicker nib, for example 'Medium' or anything bolder, will give a much wetter line than a thinner nib like a 'Fine'. However, a Fine nib will condense the ink into a much narrower line, with more ink in that small space, so it will possibly bleed more.

But I think the ink is the most important thing- I love Diamine Registrars' ink, which is a modern iron-gall ink, because the iron part of it makes it waterproof and long-lasting (i.e. what registrars used to use for official documents which had to survive for hundreds of years), but most importantly, it bleeds through on very few types of paper. It doesn't bleed through on Filofax paper!

I use a combination of Registrars' ink and a fine or extra fine nib, in my lovely Lamy fountain pens (although my usual filofax pens are biro multi-pens!)

Alison Reeves (2012-12-17 17:43:40)

Thanks for the update Steve.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-17 17:48:42)

Interesting - I gave up using Iron Gall ink because of how it can be damaging to the nibs on my better pens. However as Lamy nibs can be replaced it would not be so much of a problem. Most of mine are medium or oblique broad - I think I'll get some fine nibs and have a play!

indigogarden (2012-12-17 18:33:40)

I have used my fountain pen on the colored Filofax paper and was surprised how well it worked out. Not perfect, but acceptable to me. The plain paper I still have issues with. I use Pelikan 4001 Brilliant Black. It is also the ink used in Cross pen carts. I've had good success with this ink and fine or extra-fine nibs on both Filofax and moleskine paper. It is a nice dark black. I haven't tried the other Pelikan colors on filofax paper as yet. I will experiment as time permits.

Shadow Wolf (2012-12-17 18:34:24)

As far as I know the V-pen can in fact be refilled very easily though it wasn't specifically made to. I am sure there are lots of posts on the Fountain Pen Network about it.

I find FF own-brand paper to be rubbish with my fountain pens - even Waterman ink bleeds and feathers. The only ink that it can take is Noodler's Bulletproof Black, but then that can cope on anything! The coloured papers I haven't tried, however. My personal favourites are the Oxford Optic or Rhodia. Both can handle all the pen and ink combinations I've tried - including a *very* wet Visconti stub with Diamine Syrah! For my daily FF use I've been using A5 printer paper from Staples, but that isn't very good either, so I have plans to chop some Rhodia to size.

Shadow Wolf (2012-12-17 18:35:46)

In my book you can't beat an EF TWSBI 540 with Noodler's Bulletproof Black :) Although for a really, really fine line it would have to be Japanese.

indigogarden (2012-12-17 18:36:03)

Thanks for the tip. I will have to give Diamine Registrars' ink a try in the future.

Butanben (2012-12-17 21:10:28)

TPS- Where do you buy Diamine Registrars' ink from? I've never seen it in a store. Have I maybe just walked by it in Staples or WHS in the past and never noticed the brand???

Shadow Wolf (2012-12-18 04:29:42)

Cult pens sell it, I'm sure :)

Neil (2012-12-18 05:54:36)

You can buy Diamine ink direct from their site.

Neil (2012-12-18 06:00:25)

Imho, the solution to this sorry saga is to get Rhodia to produce a pad in 95x171, and punch it like they do with their meeting books.

Try contacting Stephanie, who runs the influential blog, "RhodiaDrive". I'm sure if Rhodia were aware of the potential demand they'd be happy to step in to meet that demand.

Chris B (2012-12-18 14:00:54)

As someone that works within the print industry I may be able to shed a little light on why the coloured papers seem to perform better than the standard white papers. As the coloured sheets are printed the layer of ink although not very thick will essentially 'seal' the surface of the paper, while on virgin white paper this wont occur. Personally I always use a ballpoint or pencil as these never seem to have writing or bleeding issues.

Shadow Wolf (2012-12-19 05:27:08)

You can also get that Diamine iron gall ink, and many others, from: <http://www.thewritingdesk.co.uk/ink.php>
Usual stuff - no affiliation, happy customer etc

Free For All Tuesday No. 98 (2012-12-18 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have. So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypHOYfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

Helen Conway (2012-12-18 02:03:12)

Can anyone recommend a very thin pen? I mean VERY thin. Thinner than a triplus liner even. I have acquired a non Filofax brand binder which is amazing (video on webfinds tomorrow- thanks Steve) but the pen loop will not fit anything I own. I have ordered a Leuchtturm penloop as a possible solution and it works with the pens clipped to an inside flap, but I'd prefer to find a new pen line :)

Helen Conway (2012-12-18 02:04:40)

Second question. Is anyone using a Filo for Family Ancestry research and if so how have you organised it? Do you have any homemade inserts?

EmmaNoey (2012-12-18 02:09:04)

I don't know how big a triplus liner is, but a Cross Century will fit in the pen loop of a vintage Filo. And it's a classic in its own right, as well. Good luck to you-

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 02:16:44)

Take a look at our files page there are some forms there that I created a while ago... I hope they are useful
Steve

Suus S (2012-12-18 02:17:46)

Can anyone tell me a good Filofax store in the Netherlands? I live in Veldhoven and always go to Bijenkorf in Eindhoven to look at Filofax. But... the assortment is very limited and they do not even have Malden! I may be looking for a Holborn, Osterley or Regency. But I cannot find them here in Eindhoven and also the paper assortment is poor. So who can help me???

Fegrig (2012-12-18 03:26:08)

Dear philofaxy

I am in a quandary and I need your assistance please.

I have recently moved my cash/card/on the go organiser functions to a "finsbury mini".

The paper side is being modified and is work in progress (it will work in tandem with my A5 Holborn) the wallet side is easing itself in (must remember to spend more coin that purse pocket is a bit mean).

What though to do with my cards - loyalty, bank, driving licence, membership, blood donor etc etc (17 at the last cull). The three slots in the mini FInsbury just don't cut it.

I'm also looking into loyalty card apps for my iPhone but they are not the ideal answer yet.

I've tried less cards (hence the cull) and a pocket size Filofax can obviously accommodate more but it's too big for my pockets, I don't need a man bag (I have more bags than a small sized bag store).

Thank you

Jarfm.com (2012-12-18 03:31:10)

Have been pondering over whether I could use a personal sized Filofax as I have 3 already and quite fancy a Holborn and Malden(yes I don't really need another Filofax at all but the Holborn and Malden's are so pretty)!!! Anyway, my question is: Can you buy blank, loose leaf paper that is the correct size to print straight on to???

Other than the Filofax paper really as they only do white and cream blank loose pages from what I can see...

I know I can just use A4 and cut down but, I guess I am just being lazy and a bit picky as my trimmer is a pain and scissors make wonky edges! I don't like using white paper as I am Dyslexic and find it easier to see/read on coloured paper (preferably light blue) with a specific font and layout - and seeing as I am not quite as creative yet with all the Washi tape etc. it adds a bit of interest! :)

Helen Conway (2012-12-18 03:38:15)

Great recommendation. When I read your comment I remembered my husband had a gold thin Cross pen. I have just pried it out of his protesting hands and it fits! Yeah! In the interests of actually getting my Christmas gifts I have given it back but will be ordering my own later today. Got to love FFAFs!

natalie (2012-12-18 04:36:29)

I have made an accidental discovery.

I asked a few days ago about why Philofaxy seemed to be slow to load, and this morning I have somehow logged on to a different version of the site with no sidebars, just the first couple of lines of each post.

I think it may be the mobile version of the site, but the difference is phenomenal and suggests that it may well be the sidebar information and widgets which are slowing things down.

Try

<http://philofaxy.com/?m=1>

I have only tried it on iPad but would be interested to see if it's better on the MacBook too.

natalie (2012-12-18 04:47:38)

ETA It does work!

Not as pretty but so much faster to load, it think this may be my default setting now.

Helen Conway (2012-12-18 05:35:39)

Whilst online shopping for the above recommended pen I made a discovery. Cross do a multifunction pen which includes in one barrel which includes a black and red ballpoint a pencil lead and an eraser. They do a Cross Tech 3 or 4 version. Not cheap at £52 or £74 but they look useful. Anyone got one and can comment?

Also, the Websters penshop online shop specifies the width of the pens for anyone like me with a small pen loop to contend with. very useful.

Helen Conway (2012-12-18 05:36:47)

In my pocket which I use as a purse, I Put extra card holders on the rings.

natalie (2012-12-18 05:46:23)

Filofax don't make card holders for the Mini, only for Pocket upwards, that's the problem I think.

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 06:13:27)

Yes the mobile version has been loading on my iPad, I find it quite annoying! I will be bookmarking the web version a bit later.

I also noticed yesterday that Safari on my Mac loads pages a lot faster than Firefox. I'm going to take a look at what extras I have added on to Firefox to see if any are slowing things down!!

Neil (2012-12-18 06:13:33)

Fegrig - I'm using a Filofax M2 (I've got a video on YouTube). It has 3 slots on the left, a pocket underneath the 3 slots which could accommodate another 3 cards, and the zipped pocket on the right is just the right size for a further 4 or 5 cards.

Neil (2012-12-18 06:19:21)

In view of the many discussions over paper, I'm just wondering whether Philofaxy might wish to feature a post on guillotines and paper trimming.

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 06:26:56)

Good idea Neil, but I suspect we each only own one or two at most.

But how about this for an idea... if each person wrote a review of their own paper trimmer/guillotine including the model name and a link to it on the net somewhere and then emailed their review to philofaxy at gmail dot com I will then bring all the reviews together in to one post with acknowledgements to all the contributors of course.
Steve

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-12-18 06:34:32)

I can do that on mine - it's not great and that would be helpful. Maybe someone would pass on buying it.... I always like to know what doesn't work great.

Butanben (2012-12-18 06:43:08)

Hi Fegrig- I have a slimline personal for my cards and have put my coffee shop and restaurant loyalty cards in a plastic wallet, with multi card slots, holds about 10,non Filofax brand, and my other shop loyalty cards in another plastic wallet. Would slip into the slots of a mini. If you e. mail me at je.mccourt@virgin.net with your home address, I can post you one to try out and see if it would be useful for you too??!!

Lily (2012-12-18 08:40:10)

I was having a look on the FF UK site earlier... where's the mash-up gone? Was it limited edition?

Karen (2012-12-18 09:29:28)

I am considering buying a pocket size filofax to use as a wallet. I am considering the Malden and the Chameleon. Is the ring sizes different? If so which one has the largest?

thanks

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 09:47:38)

Hi Karen

The Malden has the bigger rings of the two. 19mm compared to 15mm, but the Chameleon has more card slots...

I did a review which included both of these here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/10/filofax-pocket-review.html>

This was written in 2011 so colours etc might have changed etc.

Regards

Steve

Karen (2012-12-18 10:17:48)

Thanks, Steve that was very helpful.

Karen

Circus Life (2012-12-18 10:20:02)

So glad you asked this Helen! I didn't realize those files were there and they are just what I've been needing!

indigogarden (2012-12-18 11:03:25)

I use a Cross century. It is elegant, a smooth writer and very thin. It comes in several color selections too. I've also seen some thin ballpoints on jetpens.com. Ohto was the brand I believe.

Kels (2012-12-18 11:48:23)

May be a Le Pen?

Gerard (2012-12-18 11:50:24)

A Tombow Zoom 727 should fit.

disaster-anna (2012-12-18 12:13:02)

Hi! Philofaxy newbie here. I've recently converted to using a personal sized Finchley from the pocket model, but to save ring space in the personal I've been considering turing my now empty pocket into a Filofax which stores information about web design projects (both paid for & personal). I was thinking what kind of inserts I should buy for this, I have decided I would like to keep track of how many hours I work on each website a day, back up schedules and paper as a 'receipt' of payments/tracking payment records. I think a WO2P on Cotton Cream would be okay, as well as a couple of credit card holders and a transparent envelope to keep small notes in, business cards and the like. Any ideas would be wonderful :) Thanks, Annabelle x

PS. I don't use this linked livejournal anymore, unfortunately the Name/URL option is disabled so I've had to use this one :)

kanalt (2012-12-18 13:56:17)

I have noticed the blogger mobile version too, and while it is quicker, I find that the text is teeny tiny with no way or enlarging to without having to move the page from side to side (when enlarging it on the iPad). I find that part of it quite annoying myself.

Tonya (2012-12-18 14:10:08)

Just wondering if anyone thinks (or knows) if the Flex's will be discontinued? There doesn't seem to be much love for them, they are reduced in price on the Filofax site and TK Maxx have had shed loads of them. I got one today for the notebook and jotter aspect to be used separately from my Filofax.

Cloudberry (2012-12-18 14:15:24)

If you find some, let me know. I'd love to be able to buy ready punched unlined paper in pastel colours. At the moment, I make my own.

Lily (2012-12-18 17:22:23)

I use the Chameleon as a wallet, and find the multitudinous card slots very useful - I then have a couple of the

card holder inserts for the other cards.

EmmaNoey (2012-12-19 01:14:14)

I actually do have the Cross Tech 3 in Icy Pink; I wanted a Cross multi-function, and it had good reviews on Amazon from pilots and nurses, among others of course. Apparently those professions use different pen colors in the course of their work- I never knew that. Anyway, it works well in my Malden but is a *very* tight fit in the classic filo's small pen loop. Maybe I could work with it to get it to fit better, but I keep it for my pocket Malden. I got the Tech 3 from Amazon for about \$28, if I recall correctly. Then I racked the bill up by getting about 6 extra pen refills in different colors; I'm currently using brown and purple, with the .5 mm pencil. Hope that helps-

EmmaNoey (2012-12-19 01:25:52)

Hmm. The mobile version that comes up on my blackberry is terrific. I can read the posts and comments quickly in Google Reader, even on my aging phone. It's one of my favorite things about the site. So few other websites come up properly on mobile versions. Kudos to the design team because it makes such a difference.

Update on the co-operation between Filofax and Philofaxy (2012-12-18 06:54) - Steve Morton

1. In the few weeks since the meeting held in November, Filofax and myself have been able to establish good lines of communication between the Marketing Department and Philofaxy with additional input in to the New Product Development Team as well.

However, it is very early days yet as we have been discovering more and more about each other beyond the very quick overviews we gave at the meeting. Since then we have been looking in detail about the various aspects of the blog and all the other places we both exist in.

Additionally we are waiting for the new PR company to come on stream and I'm told they are looking forward to working with us at Philofaxy on product sampling/reviews and blog outreach. I believe too that we will be added to the media press release list so will automatically receive announcements at the same time as the media. I think this is very encouraging.

2. I have given some small hints and tips to help Filofax with their presence on Facebook, so they can now respond to readers and Filofax users in a more corporate manner and hopefully this will improve relations with our readers as well I'm sure.

3. One of the requests presented to Filofax at the meeting was for the tabbed monthly inserts to be changed so that the months were not printed back to back. As you will know if you have used these inserts, with them printed back-to-back you are unable to separate the months to be able to archive them or to interleave them with weekly or daily inserts.

I have sent Filofax some mocked up prototype inserts in a design that would solve this issue and allow people to separate the months in their organisers. These prototypes have helped the team at Filofax to better understand the issues with the current inserts and how the proposed changes improve on the use of this particular set of inserts. Filofax are now putting these new inserts through their formal product assessment process to see if they could become part of the range or not. The change to the inserts has an obvious increase in production costs, so like any other change it has to go through a process to validate the impact on costs and the retail price of the product.

4. As a direct result of Philofaxy posts and comments, Filofax have also commenced an internal review of paper quality. As part of this they are looking at other paper on the market for consumers. I have been informed this is an internal business process review and not a study that will be made public. It is encouraging that they have heard the comparisons being made and are investigating.

5. I have been told that the 2014 diary inserts are already in production, many already printed. Filofax is a global business, producing diaries for 40 plus markets around the world and as such they work with considerably long production lead times. So any new paper will not be incorporated widely for some time. However, the Filofax Enthusiasts range that will be launched in 2013, which was spoken about at the meeting, could be printed on different paper stock, hopefully paper of higher quality. We will be told about this new range in the New Year.

The production of all of their products and the distribution of them is spread through out the year so there isn't a huge peak in the demand on their distribution channels at the beginning of each year.

6. Whilst Filofax acknowledged the problems with the existing website at the meeting. We were told about a new improved website that will be launched in 2013. From discussions between Filofax and myself, I have put forward a couple of ideas to improve the descriptions of the organiser products on the website and these suggestions have been very well received by the team.

I'm hoping to meet up with the team at Burgess Hill when I'm over in UK in March, but a date has yet to be arranged/confirmed.

I hope you are happy with this update, I can't promise to have updates on a very frequent basis, but I will try to up date you when there is something of significance to report. What I would also like to add is that I am very grateful for the time and effort that Filofax have put in to be able to respond to my calls and emails in the last few weeks – all of which have been responded to same day.

Any questions?

Steve

18 December 2012

Hannah J (2012-12-18 07:07:43)

Wow! You've been on a mission!

LJ (2012-12-18 07:10:25)

It all sounds really positive - well done :o)

Tommes (2012-12-18 07:11:19)

Hear, hear!!!! Sounds like an improvement is on its way!

Alison (2012-12-18 07:18:59)

This is great news!! :-)

Laurie (2012-12-18 07:21:28)

Excellent, thank you Steve!

Hamish MacBear (2012-12-18 07:24:09)

This all sounds very positive - you have done so well in such a short period of time! I know this is a long shot, but has anything been mentioned about the Time Management refills, specifically the Day on 2 Pages - I think Filofax were planning to discontinue this. It is my favourite refill, and I have been investigating other refills that spread a day over two pages.

The Enthusiasts' range sounds intriguing.....

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 07:29:47)

Hamish,

I'm finding out for you.

Steve

Neil (2012-12-18 07:32:48)

Very impressed, Steve. Excellent news. I'm sure that Filofax will come to see Philofaxy as a valuable source of feedback from many of their customers.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-18 07:35:19)

Excellent news Steve. I think Filofax's willingness to work with Philofaxy and involve you in the ways described is a very good start. I'm quite excited to hear about the Filofax Enthusiasts range (I'm pretty sure this is the first I've heard about it) - very promising. I know when it comes down to it we can print our own inserts, but how nice it would be to not have to do that and just be able to order them.

I've also noticed a vast improvement in their interaction on Facebook - it's nice to get a 'human' chirpy response!

crofter (2012-12-18 07:36:51)

Great job Steve, thank you.

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 08:10:48)

Hamish

There is still a technical problem with the website. It shows the header but not the actual articles!

Filofax UK advise that it's best to use their Mail Order dept:

Mail Order – 08705 143 702 or email filofaxstore@letts.co.uk

Steve

Anke (2012-12-18 09:02:07)

Great news, thank you, Steve!

Sharon Korke (2012-12-18 09:16:59)

Outstanding! Thank you!

Emma Hancock (2012-12-18 09:42:49)

Do you know whether they have any jobs available in their Marketing Department?

Never hurts to ask :p

gdigesu (2012-12-18 09:46:47)

Steve, regarding your item 5:

Filofax is a make to stock operation, like, for instance, Apple (!!). Meaning you run a sales forecast, and calculate what you need to manufacture, based on sales, manufacturing lead times, delivery lead times, inventory levels required to keep customers happy (!), etc.

Perhaps you can suggest to them to start planning for the "new paper", for example, tomorrow (...). You can rest assured that, provided their Excel spreadsheets are correct, they will have the "new 2014 paper inserts" available to sell by August/September, on a global scale.

Paper is an abundant commodity, all over the globe, and the volume Filofax buys is very, very small. It is quite easy to negotiate the required adjustments with the paper suppliers. One can also factor in that paper mills and their sales channels are eager to do business, given well known economic reasons ...

The printing side of the process requires simple adjustments, obviously.

How about that?

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 10:00:12)

Thanks for your comment I will pass it on, but I'm not sure about the assumptions you have made regarding how they operate or the volume of paper they use etc.

Regards

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 10:01:50)

I have seen them advertise from time to time... the adverts pop up in my Filofax web searches... I was even tempted to apply myself to one that was advertised a couple of years ago, but it's a difficult commute from France! Staff discount would be attractive no doubt!!!

Steve

gdigesu (2012-12-18 10:34:10)

Steve, thanks for "passing it on".

I thought that wasn't necessary, 'cause they would be reading Philofaxy daily.

Anyway, don't take my word for it. I suggest you estimate their paper consumption, and check with the paper industry whether their volume is big, medium, small, or very, very small.

It is actually very easy to estimate how much paper they use. You can start with the following data:

Annual Sales: 50 million pounds

Average binder price: make it 35 pound

Average insert price: make it 5 pounds

Paper sizes: you know them ...

Build a simple Excel spreadsheet, run some scenarios, and you'll see that the paper volume they buy is very, very, very small.

Additionally, if you are interested, there are several websites where you can obtain additional information regarding the paper industry, where you'll confirm that their volume is really small.

Now, think about this. How is it that Apple (!!!) makes their *new* products available globally, every six months, with thousands of components, and an infinitely more complex supply chain? As it is well known, they do not know which exact components they will need 12 to 18 months in advance. Curious, is it not?

Anyway, let's wait and see what Filofax brings to us in August/September.

This is what matters, is it not?

Thanks for your kind reply.

Anita (2012-12-18 11:11:49)

Thanks for the update & it's definitely great news that good communication is going on :)

Cheryl (2012-12-18 11:31:52)

I'm also interested in the day on 2 page spread but I think that's for A5 size only right? Is the address above to inquire about those particular inserts? Thanks.

Cheryl (2012-12-18 11:33:35)

Wow great job Steve! Number 3 makes me particularly happy!

Jen (2012-12-18 11:36:46)

This all looks very promising, Steve! Thank you for taking the time to meet with them. It sounds like you had some rational, reasonable conversations.

Steve Morton (2012-12-18 11:41:01)

They do read us daily, but to make sure they see your comments I will be forwarding them on for comment.

Is the £50million for UK sales? Because I think they also produce for the rest of the world as well.

Apple aren't selling diaries, so I don't think the comparison is valid, but of course you are entitled to your own opinion. Maybe you should apply for the CEO job should it become vacant.... ;-)

Neil (2012-12-18 12:09:50)

Interesting comments about paper. But if I were in charge, I'd have my quality paper operation set up almost overnight. If they're serious about this, or maybe even just curious, I could show them exactly how to do make it happen, without it affecting their core business.

I'm assuming that they'll be reading this at some point.

Butanben (2012-12-18 12:32:09)

I agree with Cheryl about number 3... would love this for A5. Also a Filofax enthusiasts'section. WOW, WOW, WOW, this sounds just marvellous!! Can't wait to see what they are going to introduce there. Sounds very exciting and promising. Thanks Steve for all your hard work... just think this all sounds like huge positive steps forward... and well done Filofax for beginning to listen and take action.

Butanben (2012-12-18 12:44:05)

PS I am yearning for a new A5 Malden.... any tip offs about new colours from Filofax for next year's Malden range would be gratefully received. Rumour has it that there is a certain John Le Carre character who frequents French Bistros and is sometimes given a catalogue in a little brown paper parcel..... Allo, Allo style, but all very secret and hush hush at the highest level of clearance you know. The code word should anyone be able to reveal the new

colours to agent Morton, undertaking mission A5, is Malden, Jane Malden, as in a born in Essex gal!! Shhhhh!!

kanalt (2012-12-18 13:51:10)

Great news, Steve. Thanks for reporting on this!

Morag (2012-12-18 14:40:30)

@ gdigesu - Not sure where Filofax buy their paper from but the less paper you buy from a paper mill the more it costs to manufacture. E.G. they cannot afford to make a very small run of non standard paper without passing on the costs to the customer and it wasn't clear whether Filofax actually buy direct from a mill or through a broker. So any costs involved in manufacture would be passed directly onto the customer and some Filofax enthusiasts may not be willing to pay the extra costs involved.

gdigesu (2012-12-18 14:52:12)

Published on Friday 2 November 2012 00:00

"LETTS Filofax, the Dalkeith-based diary maker that has been in talks with potential buyers, saw profits halved during the 12 months to January amid the third consecutive year of "very tough trading" for the business.

FLB Group, parent company of Letts Filofax global operations, turned in a pre-tax profit of £2.1 million, down from £4.2m previously. Sales slipped by 5 per cent to £52.9m."

Source: <http://www.scotsman.com/business/industry/letts-profits-halved-as-diary-maker-admits-tough-trading-will-continue-1-2610862>

Puddytat purr (2012-12-18 21:01:59)

Wow, this is all sounding very promising!

Did anyone mention ring problems?

Lord Dodo (2012-12-19 12:08:37)

We buy paper - on a much, much smaller scale than Filofax and we are able to negotiate with the printers/paper mills for quality as well as quality. Ultimately it is a question of will.

I agree in global terms their paper requirements will be relatively small but they are massively bigger than Dodo Pad's paper requirements. Into any costing matrix needs to go cost of transport and storage too - if you move from a 60gsm or 80gsm paper to a 100gsm paper you are increasing the weight and bulk (albeit to a lesser extent) by a significant % and this will have a bearing on the overall costs too. But ultimately it is both economics and the will to deliver what customers want. And funnily enough one tends to influence the other. It just depends on where you are coming from - as in most things in life.

David Popely (2012-12-20 03:21:39)

Thank you for the update Steve, and sorry to be late commenting (again) - I've been travelling since last Friday and yesterday was my first day back in the office.

Although it remains to be seen what substantive changes (if any) will be forthcoming, I appreciate all your hard work on this.

Web Finds - 18 December 2012 (2012-12-18 12:00) - Steve Morton

Here are the latest blog posts from around the internet:

1. [1]A5 Finsbury - Zuri means beautiful
2. [2]Meet my Finsbury! - Zuri means beautiful
3. [3]Supplies for Brightening up my Filofax - Femme Musings
4. [4]Personal Holborn in wine heading my way... - Paper Pens Ink

5. [5]Filofax Spotted on TV! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
6. [6]Random Bits - Friday, I'm in Love
7. [7]Mini Mission - Filofaximile
8. [8]Pondering Paper Samples - Filofaximile
9. [9]my filofax week #35 - Paper Lovestory
10. [10]Christmas gift advice. - Filofax Philosophy
11. [11]Vintage-Serie - Teil 5: Portland - Filo-Manie
12. [12]Accidental (self) Enabling - Filofaximile
13. [13]Week 1: Filofax Update - Thoughts of a Filofly
14. [14]New Pocket Finsbury and Colourful Monthly Calendar :) - Filofax Love
15. [15]My Filofax set-up, fall 2012 - Bluebonnet Reads
16. [16]Filofax + Clairefontaine = Love - The Crazy Suburban Mom
17. [17]Green Wing-ing you a filofax sighting! - Filofaximile
18. [18]New Mulberry – 1 week on - Paper Pens Ink
19. [19]Pocket or Personal - the decision continues.. - Imysworld
20. [20]Weeks worth of to-do sheets - The Crazy Suburban Mom
21. [21]New personal size binder... - Bluebonnet Reads
22. [22]Upcoming arrival; Filofax Personal Holborn and Filofax Osterley A5 - My Filo World
23. [23]Spending check - Cloudberry Musings
24. [24]Filofax Frenzy - From down the well
25. [25]December 21, 2012 - Quo Vadis Blog

And here is the latest Filofax videos from around the internet:

IFRAME: [26]http://www.youtube.com/embed/gr2JTa_FwjU?rel=0

This is the [27]link mentioned in the video

IFRAME: [28]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/qRfEi7lzn5c?rel=0>

IFRAME: [29]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/DDtjNHTaRqs?rel=0>

IFRAME: [30]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/vwZWmk5Bfek?rel=0>

IFRAME: [31]http://www.youtube.com/embed/6RM-_qgUwK8?rel=0

Enjoy

1. <http://zurimeansbeautiful.wordpress.com/2012/12/08/a5-finsbury/>
2. <http://zurimeansbeautiful.wordpress.com/2012/12/12/meet-my-finsbury/>
3. <http://femmeinistspectator.wordpress.com/2012/12/15/brightening-up-my-filofax/>
4. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/12/personal-holborn-in-wine-heading-my-way.html>
5. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-spotted.html>
6. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.com/2012/12/random-bits.html>

7. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/mini-mission.html>
8. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/pondering-paper-samples.html>
9. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/12/my-filofax-week-35.html>
10. <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/12/its-that-time-of-year-again-where-we.html>
11. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/12/vintage-serie-teil-5-portland.html>
12. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/accidental-self-enabling.html>
13. <http://stevieyaacoub.blog.com/2012/12/17/week-1-filofax-update/>
14. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/12/17/new-pocket-finsbury-and-colourful-monthly-calendar/>
15. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/12/16/my-filofax-set-up-fall-2012/>
16. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/12/filofax-clairefontaine-love.html>
17. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/green-wing-ing-you-filofax-sighting.html>
18. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/12/new-mulberry-1-week-on.html>
19. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/12/pocket-or-personal-decision-continues.html>
20. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/12/weeks-worth-of-to-do-sheets.html>
21. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/12/17/new-personal-size-binder/>
22. <http://myfiloworld.com/upcoming-arrival-filofax-personal-holborn-and-filofax-osterley-a5/>
23. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/12/spending-check.html>
24. <http://downthewell.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-frenzy.html>
25. <http://quovadisblog.com/2012/12/18/december-21-2012/>
26. http://www.youtube.com/embed/gr2JTa_FwjU?rel=0
27. <http://productwiki.co.uk/rip101-com/purses-wallets/golunski-graffiti-leather-filofax-cover-blk-trop-wiki/239862.htm>
28. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/qRfEi7lzn5c?rel=0>
29. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/DDtjNHTaRqs?rel=0>
30. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/vwZWmk5Bfek?rel=0>
31. http://www.youtube.com/embed/6RM-_qgUwK8?rel=0

Anny Keyz (2012-12-20 10:13:22)

Hey guys! I have a new post on my Aston. I'm trying to use it as a wallet. So far so good... <http://annshirley.blogspot.ca/>

Nellie (2012-12-20 13:35:05)

Great list!

My inevitable return to Malden (2012-12-19 00:00) - Anita Lim

I don't know what it is about Filofaxes as I'm not particularly fickle when it comes to my other belongings. Maybe it's the ol' search for the perfect planner or just downright envy... I'm not sure. I immediately loved the [1]Ascot I purchased from [2]Adspot, and said to myself, "Right, that's it and I am finally done, and the only reason I will replace this is if it falls apart". And then the little doubts started to creep in when I was deleting some old photos and came across ones of my first crimson personal Malden. I originally obsessed about them for a long time, but wouldn't buy one as I already had a perfectly decent binder, a cherry Classic.

And somehow I still wasn't content when Filofax kindly replaced the faulty Classic with my long sought-after crimson! My journey took me then to an A5 in vintage pink (sold the crimson one, silly me) and a personal in purple, but sadly both were faulty and were returned. I took this as a cue to investigate others rather than immediately returning to Malden, and sampled the delights of a [3]slimline and the Ascot. However, deep down I think I knew where my loyalties still lay.

I hadn't really made my mind up, but wrote an update in the Philofaxy [4]Facebook group which was me just thinking out aloud that my ideal solution would be a swap and the lovely Kate stepped forward!

Once the decision was made we both sprung into action and posted the files, and I had my Malden in my hands the very next day! On opening the box, I just went, "Ohhh!" and gazed at its loveliness.



[5]
piccies

I know so many of you have them, but I couldn't resist some



[6]

I am so relieved to be a member again of the Malden Appreciation Society (as the wonderful Tony put it), and I'm not going to let this one get away! I haven't really done any work on its set up other than plonking the contents of the Ascot straight in, but I already feel right at home. [7]



I admit to one little eBay purchase to make me smile and make it feel more mine, which I've attached to the zip pull inside. It originally had a little bell on the bottom, but my cat was much too interested and I think the noise would've got on my nerves eventually. [8]



So, after only a 5 month hiatus I am back in a Malden and here to stay, phew :)

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/going-vintage-and-my-solution.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/p/adspot.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/embracing-filofax-change-part-2.html>
4. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/filofaxusers/>
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-YTvk_lVIUnI/UMyFZqpptbI/AAAAAAAAABL4/htgCZAT-BV4/s1600/P1030897.JPG
6. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-k7G0yRX2W8g/UMyFdSitlUI/AAAAAAAAABMA/-49owWYdGGY/s1600/P1030898.JPG>
7. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-5KL9UYdCqSg/UMyIStxS37I/AAAAAAAAABMY/Cp7MyWc8XSg/s1600/P1030899.JPG>
8. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-01Ku_eG-SJs/UMyJQ1U-E7I/AAAAAAAAABMg/XDbhnzqt5k/s1600/P1030903.JPG

Carla H. (2012-12-19 00:51:23)
Welcome back. :)

Patricia (2012-12-19 05:32:59)

I love my Maldens, can't see me using anything else. I have a purple A5 which usually stays at home and a compact zipped which I think of as my purse/wallet, with just a month to view planner and some notes in

it. I also have a grey personal and a crimson pocket which are currently "resting" but still give me pleasure to look at!!

Tor Ince (2012-12-19 08:07:37)

I love your little cat charm! I keep thinking about getting a new Filo, but I'm devoted to my chocolate brown Metropol. It's funny how they do that to you. :)

Wannabe Mummy (2012-12-19 12:56:12)

I've been in love with my compact raspberry Chameleon, but it's now too small for my needs. After settling with my decision to upgrade to a personal (rather than A5), I couldn't bring myself to get a personal chameleon, because I didn't like the way the colour faded so quickly on my compact. So after MUCH research, I settled on looking for Malden. They don't come in raspberry or hot pink(!) so it would have to be black (boring) or vintage pink. I spied a vintage pink on Ebay, purchased on Monday, it arrived today and I AM IN LOVE!!! Now I know what the fuss was all about! :-)

mppaul2 (2012-12-19 14:44:55)

Love the color!! BTW, does anyone know where I might find a Goals template for my personal filofax? I saw a YT video and someone mentioned they had found one here at Philophaxy but I did not see one on the Diary Inserts page

Susan Stanway (2012-12-19 15:20:28)

I can't wait to be a member of MAS! My first Ochre Personal Malden is on its way as we speak :) *checks tracking site again*

Anthony Hill (2012-12-19 15:23:46)

I'm a convert well and truly, the colour and the feel of the soft leather how could anyone resist the temptation about buying the Malden, I'm sure it's a classic. The little cat charm is a very nice touch Anita.

Steve Morton (2012-12-19 15:42:33)

Hi, Try the files page.

Steve

Anita (2012-12-19 17:55:27)

Thank you for your comments :)

The Holborns are a close second for me, but I'm a Malden girl through & through! Glad you're all enjoying yours & I hope you love yours, Susan (I notice you say 'first'!)

Butanben (2012-12-19 18:13:22)

I utterly love my pocket Crimson Malden, and would really adore an A5 Malden, as the rings are so roomy and the design is just fabulous. I love your puddy cat charm too Anita. I saw a pen today with a lovely silvery cat charm on the end, secretly I am a huge cat fan, but I admired from a distance and resisted buying. Being unemployed £4.99 is too much for fripperies!! Sigh!! xx

Susan Stanway (2012-12-19 18:14:08)

Yes, yes, first Malden! Thank you :) I hope so too! It is posts like yours that keep re-affirming that I've made a good choice!

Shadow Wolf (2012-12-19 18:50:55)

I love the Maldens. There's a special Malden Magic I think, and I am now firmly addicted to the A5s. I know the Holborn is popular too, but having seen one I just can't see the appeal compared to the wonderful Malden!

mppaul2 (2012-12-19 19:28:50)

found it! Thanks Steve!!

Lime Tree (2012-12-19 23:32:56)

ooooohhh beautiful! I wish I could find a vintage pink one.
Welcome back to your beloved one :)

Lynne Dove (2012-12-20 04:16:59)

From a reply I got on their FB page, I'm pretty sure there will be an aqua malden next year.

Lynne Dove (2012-12-20 04:17:16)

From a reply I got on their FB page, I'm pretty sure there will be an aqua malden next year.

Doris (2012-12-21 21:11:27)

Anita, welcome back to the Malden. I love mine, and would never give it up, I think. (:
@Lynne: An aqua Malden would be great! I'm still on the hunt for my blue/teal personal.

Philofaxy Meet Ups - March 2013 (2012-12-20 00:00) - Steve Morton

Christmas is just around the corner, but plans are in place for two meet ups in March 2013. These will be taking place in Manchester and London on March 9th and March 16th.

I will be in UK for a couple of weeks so I have been able to adjust our travel dates so I get two Saturdays... got to get your priorities right?!!!

So this is a 'calling notice' for people who would like to attend the either of Philofaxy Meet Ups in Manchester or London or both!.

Please read all of the post before you apply for a place on the meet ups. Places are limited in numbers.

When and Where

Manchester - 9th March 2013

The date of the meet up is **Saturday 9 March 2013** and we will meet initially at **12 noon** at BHS in Market Street.

However, the actual arrangements for this meet up are fairly flexible, and we will tie down the more precise arrangements in the next few weeks once we have a list of people. We need to decide on where to eat and where to shop afterwards, so anyone who is local to Manchester and knows the City Centre well, we would appreciate your input.

Thank you.

How to book a place on the meet up

To get a place on the meet up you need to email: **steve[at]philofaxy[dot]com** and mark your email **March 2013 Manchester Meetup butnot before 8am (UK time) Saturday 22 December 2012**. Please only request a place if you are 99 % certain that you will be able to attend on the 9th I'm hoping this time to have full attendance.

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.

IFRAME: [\[1\]https://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8 &t=m &ll=53.482587,-2.241372 &spn=0.002235,0.00456 &z=17 &output=embed](https://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&t=m&ll=53.482587,-2.241372&spn=0.002235,0.00456&z=17&output=embed)

[2]View Larger Map

London - 16th March 2013

The date of the meet up is **Saturday 16 March 2013** and we will meet initially at **12 noon** at Vapiano on the corner of Southwark Street and Great Guildford Street on the South Bank of the Thames, this is behind Tate Modern on Southwark Street about a 10 minute walk from either London Bridge Station or Southwark Tube Station.



[3]

We have visited this venue before. They have a great ordering system which uses a smart card to record the items you order from the bar or food counter. When you pay the bill you will only be paying for the items you ordered and there's no additional service charge. Because of the flexibility on their ordering and payment system, you will be able to easily pay with cash or card. If you are slightly late it won't be quite so critical.

You can read all about the restaurant on their [4]website here

During the meal there will be plenty of time for chatting and sharing Filofax organisers... There is also a large lounge area where we can sit and drink coffee or something stronger.

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 hopefully be joining us for lunch at Vapiano.

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](mailto:steve@philofaxy.com) and mark your email **March 2013 London Meetup but not before 8am (UK time) Saturday 22 December 2012**. Please only request a place if you are 99 % certain that you will be able to attend on the 16th I'm hoping this time to have full attendance.

Once all twelve places are assigned additional names will be added to a reserve list, in case anyone has to drop out of the meet up.

As places are allocated you will receive an email back again confirming your place on the meet up.

Please **do not** book travel tickets etc until you have a confirmed place. I will attempt to confirm places within 2-3 hours of receiving your email.

Should you be unsuccessful in booking a place on this particular meet up in March there will be another meet up in spring/summer 2013 the dates are as yet to be confirmed.

Additional Information

If you aren't familiar with London or how to get to Vapiano 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.

If you are staying over night there are a variety of hotels in the area, Premier Inn, Travel Lodge, Holiday Inn Express, Mercure all have hotels in the area.

I will be staying down in Kent so I will be coming up for the day, but I'm sure if people want to meet up afterwards for a meal like the recent London Meet Up, then I can stay late in to the evening as well.

Thank you... any questions?

IFRAME: [7]<https://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8 &ll=51.505185,-0.097539 &spn=0.001833,0.002988 &t=m &z=19 &output=embed>

[8]View Larger Map

1. <https://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&t=m&ll=53.482587,-2.241372&spn=0.002235,0.00456&z=17&output=embed>
2. <https://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&t=m&ll=53.482587,-2.241372&spn=0.002235,0.00456&z=17&source=embed>
3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qd-VeLigH_0/UGHmRPnvFOI/AAAAAAAAANQs/1LZCVF81-NU/s1600/24092012028.jpg
4. <http://www.vapiano.de/frame.php?lang=uk>
5. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
6. http://journeyplanner.tfl.gov.uk/user/XSLT_TRIP_REQUEST2?language=en
7. <https://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.505185,-0.097539&spn=0.001833,0.002988&t=m&z=19&output=embed>
8. <https://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.505185,-0.097539&spn=0.001833,0.002988&t=m&z=19&source=embed>

milky (2012-12-20 04:29:18)
How exciting!

Anthony Hill (2012-12-20 14:43:06)
I've already entered the date in the 2013 diary section. Looking forward to 9 March

Tommies (2012-12-21 11:35:27)
I won't be able to make it in March, but I know you are all having a great time! I will be with in my thoughts...
Thomas

LJ (2012-12-21 12:45:41)
Gutted!!! My boss has just rescheduled our conference from the week of March 11th in Weymouth to some week in May instead :o(Have a fab time :o)

Alison (2012-12-21 18:24:16)
Me too :-)

Jené Dubois (2012-12-22 16:13:46)
Oh no I don't believe it! I won't be able to attend unfortunately due to my partner's birthday lunch. So wanted to show you my new collection :-) since the previous meet-up. Just received today the personal Malden from WH Smiths not bad price either, and I tracked down the navy personal Ascot which I love. Hope you all have a fun time, hope to be on the next meet-up! JD X

SimonT (2012-12-31 13:23:41)
Unfortunately I won't even be able to attempt to make it. Just checked in my fill and I have children contact that weekend of the 16th and as much as I would love to spend time being all filofaxy I'm afraid my children take priority. Hope you all have a good time.

Steve Morton (2012-12-31 13:25:02)
Thanks Simon, another time I'm sure.

Rebecca Cripps (2013-01-03 15:39:10)
I so wish I lived in England so I could attend!! The very thought of being so close to a Filofax store!!! I live in Tasmania, Australia. The filofax ranges in our stationery stores is VERY limited. Domino, Apex and the odd Metropol. And the prices!!! Very expensive. I have ordered online, but it's not quite the same!!



[1]

I would guess for a lot of people today might be their last day of work before the Christmas holiday, although I know some of you work weekends and possibly Monday Christmas Eve as well. In UK and other places 26th December is also a holiday, not here in France, it is a normal working day!

I know when I was working these last few days before the holiday break were either mad crazy busy with lots of last minute work coming in to be signed off, reports to be peer reviewed to get them 'out the door' before the end of the year..... or deadly quiet, especially between Christmas and New Year, if it was the later I used to make good use of the time to up date my Filofax and get it all prepared for the start of the New Year.

What routines do you go through with your Filofax to prepare it for the New Year?

But as always as it is a Friday you are of course free to discuss anything Filofax or Ring Bound Organisers related....

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-18k0sFXi2l0/TuuMVYICb_I/AAAAAAAAAJ-A/79EpuDtf-Fg/s1600/graphics-christmas-french-765278.gif

Tim (2012-12-21 00:24:50)

Not everyone is winding down! We run a group of holiday cottages (on the side of the famous Ilkley Moor in Yorkshire) and the next two weeks are our busiest of the entire year! It's 5am and I'm on with installing new beds and touching up paintwork to be ready!

I think it's the most important time in the Filofax year! I always find time to write a review of the year - all the main things that have happened, goals achieved and how I'm feeling at the end of the year . It's the best time to review my set-up, cull old pages, update address records from Christmas cards received and set new resolutions and goals for the year ahead. It's always a good feeling to start the New Year ready and running!

David Popely (2012-12-21 03:01:51)

Today is my last 'official' working day. History teaches me that by 27th December I'll have cabin fever, so I'll probably appear at my desk for Thursday and Friday next week, but *not* to do regular work - and that's where my personal planning comes in. I shall 'weed' the Filofax, do a full review of all my lists and diary, and most importantly, finally set and commit to my goals for next year, do whatever planning hasn't already been done, and get the plans, schedules and diary dates in my diary for 2013.

The 'mirror image' of this process is the half year review, which I normally do the last week in May. This is a hangover from the days when I had small kids, and we *always* went on holiday with my parents during the spring half term week. My parents were excellent and enthusiastic babysitters, so I often spent several days sitting by the pool, reviewing progress and making adjustments to my TMI schedules.

Really missing my old TMI setup right now (nostalgia is a powerful thing), but heigh ho, life goes on!

Have a great Christmas/Solstice/Mayan Apocalypse, everyone.....

Tim (2012-12-21 03:13:47)

Hi David - I still read my Time Manager (TMI) handbook manual every year around this time. I find it really motivational. it helps me to focus on which of my 'key areas' I need to concentrate on and to set personal goals for

the new year ahead. Highly recommended reading for anyone keen on being more time efficient, if you can get a copy.

David Popely (2012-12-21 03:17:37)

Good idea Tim - it's this time of year that I realise how much I miss the discipline which running the system imposed on me. Sure, GTD comes with a slightly different, and some would argue more contemporary, set of disciplines, but the TMI years were good years and I still harbour a suspicion that the disciplines would largely work in these more modern, tech-savvy (or obsessed?) times.

I think the PDF is available if anyone wants to read it - great idea for those 'cabin fever' days in between Christmas and the New Year.....

DanishGTD (2012-12-21 03:35:59)

Gonna be spending the days between christmas and newyears preparing for my (yet again) return to the Filofax. I'm currently printing calenderpages for my A5 Finchley off the Philofaxy website so everything will be ready for my "move".

Thinking of starting "Journal School" as well in 2013 so looking forward to maybe using my FF for this as well though I probably should be using a really nice handmade leather journal instead.

I'm gonna take this opportunity to wish everyone in here a very merry christmas and a happy new year with (hopefully) lots of fun FF-stories to be shared in the coming year...

Helen Conway (2012-12-21 04:25:50)

I set my new compact regency up with a new set up, new diaries and tabs and new washit tape and posh Cavellini stickers and everything a good while ago and have been becoming more and more eager for New Year to come so I can move it into it (Note to self: Blog post required!). But then I got my beautiful graffiti not-filofax binder in TK Maxx last week and that requires a new set up too now so I can swap and change between restrained and elegant and wild and colourful as moods require.

I will move the actual diary and notes over but once the shopping moratorium is over (imposed in our house for self-shopping between exchange of wish lists and Christmas Day to avoid suprise spoiling!) I shall be online looking for bright and decorative sticky notes and divider cards.

I also have a new Amazonia A5 from TK Maxx to set up and as the builders ocm eto do the last of the house rennovations in january we may actualy have cash to leave the hosue this year so I am thinking I need a travel planing filo and am trying to choose between the Cavellini Bon Voyage stickers or the Destinations ones. (Both?!)

I intend to make some map dividers from an old atlas over teh holidays.

My ritual is that New Years day morning I have a long and quiet journalling session thinking about the year ahead and setting goals. These I keep in my A5 Osterley so there will be some reviewing and archiving and putting on for new pages behind month tabs going on while the Viennese Concert plays on TV. It is a time I very much look forward to.

Helen Conway (2012-12-21 04:26:31)

Where can we find the PDF David?

David Popely (2012-12-21 04:30:22)

It's in a Dropbox shared folder along with a pile of other TMI publications, but I can't send you an invite as I didn't create the folder and I forget who did! However, I can move it to a new folder and send you an invite if you send me your email address.

There are some 'housekeeping rules' re shared Dropbox folders, the principal one of which is that you must *not* delete files from the folder (or they will be deleted on the hard drives of everyone in the group share), or cut and paste to another folder (same effect). Use copy and paste as soon as you get sight of the file, in case someone else transgresses.....

Let me know if you want a share invite

Helen Conway (2012-12-21 04:31:43)

Sigh. One New Year resolution is to achieve a comment without typos. Sorry.

Shadow Wolf (2012-12-21 04:50:16)

Please may I have an invite?

David Popely (2012-12-21 04:53:31)

Please read my previous.

Tim (2012-12-21 05:14:58)

Please be careful with copyright guys! "Time Manager - the Guide to Personal Effectiveness" is still very much in current publication and available at <http://shop.timemanager.com/shop/uk/time-manager-the-810p.html>. It is £25 plus VAT if bought as a standalone item. It's included with Time Manager sets.

David Popely (2012-12-21 05:24:47)

Thanks Tim.....can you remember who it was who originally put it on Dropbox? I've got a hard copy myself, but it wasn't me.....

Alison Reeves (2012-12-21 05:26:51)

I don't think I have ever been so organised for Christmas - for some reason my brain is convinced it is this weekend on not Tuesday! Anyway after a very angst filled few months I am looking forward to a break from routine - we have some nice social things to do this weekend - but I have plans for next week! I have to finalise my 2013 filofax setup (binder and inserts), and I want to do some goal setting and planning. I want to plan in much more detail this year. I also have some de-cluttering to do - I want to set up my old study upstairs in a spare room as a sewing/craft room. I also want to streamline my desk setup in the dining room (where I now work). I just need to make sure I do all this and not sit about watching Christmas TV!

Amanda (2012-12-21 05:44:43)

With the thought that I may actually be ungenerous at this time of year, especially in light of the new Filofax/Philofaxy dialogues and accords, in 2013 I hope that this year Santa brings Filofax Research and Development, briefs to:

allow their new inserts to start on 1 January and end on 31 December without the face page of the diary section reading 'Clothing Size Equivalents'. I know, very difficult to print the start of the year on the right side of the holes, but maybe they can get it ready for 2015.

develop a lightweight aluminium type metal ruler hole punch to carry in the filofax. Or perhaps they could just glue metal holepunch elements into the plastic one that would punch holes without torn edges after the first 8-10 pages. Considering the dedicated on the road filer must purchase a new plastic punch 3 or 4 times a year I'm sure the price would be carried by the long suffering supporters of these punches, after all the economy is on the mend, so they say, and a release by 2016 could mean they'll rush off the shelves. (perhaps with a little reverse engineering they could also work out how to model a new punch on the apparently rare 'Rapesco' hole punches. (BTW I have an A5 version purchased in The Netherlands that they can inspect if they wish)

Provide ruled and punched pads that flip to the left, rather than up, so that said pad can fit into the vertical back slot in my Finchley. Not much engineering needed there, just some lateral thinking - could that be a 2014 achievement?

And even though some of us are 'paper fanatics' (yes, LOL!) we must embrace technology on occasion and a 'super thin' Filofax branded USB key drive that sits discretely in a dedicated slot in one's Filofax would be such a delight for the extraordinary occasions one must stoop to computers for information retrieval.

Merry Christmas everyone.

David Popely (2012-12-21 05:46:36)

Sounds fantastic - good luck! I would be reorganising my office if it wasn't for the fact that we're moving on 1st Feb so I'll have a whole new office to organise! I'll definitely be doing the goal-setting and planning though. I've just reviewed by 2012 goals and it's a pretty salutary process. Next year will be better - and at the expense of television, as you quite rightly say. Sky is going as part of the moving process, so at least we won't have *that* to distract!

David Popely (2012-12-21 05:47:58)

Really* like the USB holder idea - if only all USB keys were the same size.....

Tim (2012-12-21 06:03:31)

I don't do Dropbox, so it wasn't me either! I've got both the book and the very old version when it was in three booklets format.

To be fair to people who spend hundred of hours writing books and articles for a living, I'm (probably like you!) one of those old-fashioned people who don't believe that an individual's work is free to be scanned and re-circulated on the web without permission or payment!

I've just remembered that books are VAT free, by the way.

Claudia Volkman (2012-12-21 06:14:38)

Hi David! In the US there's TimeDesign - is this the same? Wouldn't the TMI refills fit in a Filofax? Reading your post (and Tim's) has made me nostalgic, too - but the refills are so expensive... Anyway, if it's the same, there's a quick start guide that I have as a PDF that folks may enjoy. But it sounds like the book you mention is more substantial.

David Popely (2012-12-21 06:19:37)

Hi Claudia! Over here we had (in the 80s) Time Manager and Time/System. I know the latter was from the US, I don't know TimeDesign. The TMI manual is designed as a start-up guide for the TMI system, which is very structured in terms of the disciplines it imposes, and it's that aspect of things which has always appealed to me, as I think the set-up you use matters far less than the fact that you use it in a disciplined way. In the 21st century there seems to be a belief that technology will solve the problem, whereas in fact technology just enables the chaos to spread more quickly if a proper discipline of time management isn't in place. One day soon that will come back into fashion and I'll make a lot of money running courses on how to do it!

Helen Conway (2012-12-21 06:22:02)

If there is dropbox to which I can be (ethically) invited I would love to accept the invite. Email me at studioconway at gmail dot com. I use Dropbox shared folders a lot so I can be trusted not to delete :) If the PDF was sold as an e-product there would be VAT on it (never understand that logic!) and if someone bought it I cannot see that it is a breach of copyright to share it anymore than it is a breach of copyright to lend a friend a paperback or leave a magazine in a hairdressers, unless it was a condition in the contract of purchase that it should not be so shared. If the PDF is a scanned copy of the hard version then it might well be a breach of copyright in that it reproduces the work without permission.

janet (2012-12-21 06:22:29)

I always like to spend New Year alone - reflecting on the year that has ended and pondering the new year to come. I throw away or archive anything to do with the year just ended and start my new ones. I think of goals and hopes and wishes and write them all down. I usually spend a lovely quiet New Year with myself and my hopes and dreams, quietly welcoming the new year with all it's new possibilities. The moment of saying goodbye to the old year and opening crisp new planners and organisers is very special to me.

The years I do 'proper' new year with champagne and fireworks and big parties I never really enjoy the same as I do the ones on my own.

David Popely (2012-12-21 06:24:38)

The PDF is a scanned copy of the printed original, so I guess that places it in the 'unethical' dept.

As you quite rightly say, however, there would be nothing to stop me from lending you my copy of the original.....

David Popely (2012-12-21 06:27:06)

Hi Janet

Hurrah for those of us who prefer our own company! It's very unfashionable these days, and we introverts are regarded with a deal of suspicion by society generally.

You might be interested to read 'Quiet' by Susan Cain.....or 'Spirit of Silence' by John Lane, one of my all-time favourite authors who sadly died this year.

Amanda (2012-12-21 06:28:32)

memory cards are

actually I use one of these,

<http://www.lacie.com/products/product.htm?id=10611>

inside a plastic envelope, inside the zipped section of my Finchley. Avoids 'lumps', but a designed official Filofax version with a dedicated holder (card size) would be lovely

Helen Conway (2012-12-21 06:33:49)

Indeed!

Helen Conway (2012-12-21 06:36:43)

I quite agree Janet. I can't think of anything worse than having to see in New Year in a party involving drunk hordes! Although in a way New Year is an artificial concept I love the sense of peace and clarity in my head taht it helps me create just by marking the occasion with thought.

And new paper...!

Tim (2012-12-21 06:46:37)

Hi Claudia - "Time Design" is not the same as Time Manager. Time Manager is still available in the States. See <http://shop.timemanager.com/shop/us/frontpage.html>

Time Manager Original is the equivalent of Filofax Personal with the same holes. However, Time Manager paper is wider (and a better size!) being 18cm x 11cm. So it will stick out of a Filofax Personal binder.

Time Manager A5 is the same size as Filofax A5 but they have a different hole configuration. Ho hum!

Time Manager binders are expensive but WAY superior to the budget Far East manufactured stuff that Filofax procurs.

David Popely (2012-12-21 06:50:38)

Got to agree with you there Tim....my 20-year-old TMI black leather binder still looks as-new.....

Steve Morton (2012-12-21 06:52:11)

My 27 year old Filofax Winchester it looking quite good for its age too!

Laurie (2012-12-21 07:08:19)

Too bad Filofax doesn't make them like the Winchester quality anymore! I can't imagine what a leather Filofax binder bought today would look like after 27 years of use!!!

Alison Reeves (2012-12-21 07:40:33)

You are not alone in this - my gregarious husband usually drags me out to an event, but I'd be just as happy at home ...

David Popely (2012-12-21 07:43:01)

I'm beginning to wonder if we're all really introverts just 'playing along' to society's perceived norms.....

Tonya (2012-12-21 08:48:51)

Hi, is "journal school" an online thing or something you're doing yourself? I've noticed a few Filofaxers mention journalling but not sure where to start with it.

Tonya (2012-12-21 08:56:09)

I plan to spend the time between Christmas and new year (apart from the 1 half day I have to work) on doing some planning/writing for starting a blog. I bought my FF at the end of November as my diary for next year and

discovered a whole new world online (Filofaxy). I probably wont customise it as much as some but I do like how it makes me think, how it clears my head and how every night before I go to bed I write down what I need to do the next day and it makes me much less anxious just taking that step.

michele (2012-12-21 09:24:46)

While cleaning out the basement here in NY, we found TWO Time Manager binders along with all the inserts that my boyfriend received from attending a training session on time management sponsored by his employer in London in the early 90's. Wow these two binders have been sitting on our kitchen table for a month and I haven't looked at until this am. John told me I might find some of the inserts useful, but I can see they would stick out. HmMMM @Laurie, the personal vintage Tejus Filofax I rec'd last Christmas really illustrates just like the Winchester the quality of the leather used by Filofax in the early days....I don't think I could buy a newer FILO - just no comparison.

May (2012-12-21 11:03:11)

I have plans to do some inspiring and encouraging filofax art to see me through 2013. I want to print out some beautiful quotes and images to disperse through my filo to keep my mind focussed.

I have been a happy pocket user for about 5 years, but now I have a child in school, one in nursery, and a baby at home, a new blog, voluntary work, and working from home restarting in Easter, I have a lot more to keep track of. I have switched to a personal size with a week to view diary - using an old blue Domino - and it's working well. I might just need a bigger handbag to accomodate it! I've used this mmonth as a sort of 'test' month for my new setup, so I am hoping to move into a new binder and finalise my setup before we hit January!

I'm waiting for Daytimer UK to deliver my new binder. It's taken 2 and a half weeks so far and several emails, but still no sign of it... :0(

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-12-21 11:34:30)

Hi guys! I am starting my new resolution early, to archive all of my diary pages once they are sufficiently old (3 months or older, but if I am saving paper space in my filo, 1 month). I think storing these pages (rather than having them randomly scattered everywhere) will help me in my current desire to use a bound planner instead!

I would like to know:

When you guys archive your filofax pages, whether yearly or more frequently, do you archive just your diary pages, or everything, including defunct to-do lists and post-it notes etc?

Thanks!!

David Popely (2012-12-21 11:42:51)

I don't archive anything.....except in the recycling.

Goodness, I don't have enough space for the stuff that's current, let alone the stuff that isn't :)

David Popely (2012-12-21 11:43:21)

Anyone other than you and I interested in the potential SW 2013 meet-up yet?

Nellie (2012-12-21 11:50:36)

Another interovert here too. I reviewed Susan Cain's book on my blog, it was one of the best reeds of this year for me. <http://www.fennellbooks.co.uk/journal/2012/5/12/quiet-by-susan-cain.html>

David Popely (2012-12-21 11:58:03)

Hi Nellie

Great review, thank you. I do recommend 'Spirit of Silence' by John Lane, and also Sara Maitland's 'A Book of Silence'.....

Many we should start an Introverts Circle, but that would be a bit of an oxymoron, wouldn't it :)

indigogarden (2012-12-21 12:12:28)

I'd like to hear more about your journal school, if you don't mind sharing?

indigogarden (2012-12-21 12:15:47)

The little zip pocket in my Malden is perfect for the USB pocket idea. I've kept my writing backup USB in my "writing journal" filofax for some time now. :)

Alison (2012-12-21 12:33:04)

I'm interested in this as i'm starting to archive for the first time this year, think i'll archive all the to-do lists and all the bits of papers I punch for between my diary pages :-)

Alison (2012-12-21 12:39:03)

This will be my first year using Filofax or similar from the beginning of the year, i'm planning on sticking with my set up for the whole year, no swapping and changing between sizes.

As I finally managed to get hold of a new Holborn in personal size without faulty rings (thanks to CO checking it for me before sending it out) that arrived today, i'll be spending the next few days on my set up.

I'm going to be more busy this year with certain groups that I attend and with volunteering so I needed to upgrade from slimline.

Frederique (2012-12-21 13:51:48)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Auds J (2012-12-21 14:17:38)

My year-end set up of my Filofaxes is predictable by now.... step 1. Go crazy and buy a load of new Filos. Step 2. Reminisce about the year that has just passed as I clear out the Filofax I had been using & selectively archive some of its contents. Step 3. Consume liberal amounts of coffee and/or tea while trolling the web for Filofax photos, blogs, inspiration! Step 4. Decide to purchase more gifts for myself, in the form of inserts, sticky notes, colorful paper, gorgeous pens, etc. Year after year, THIS is what I most look forward to at the holidays.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-21 14:21:24)

I always do a look back and a look forward during the week between Christmas and New Year's. I like to do it then so I'm ready on January 1st to start the new year knowing where I'm going and how I'm going to get there (as much as we can know that!). Looking forward to it!

Helen Conway (2012-12-21 15:07:31)

i archive everything because it gives a fuller picture of life to look back on. I just treasure tags through the holes.

mppaul2 (2012-12-21 16:22:38)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Gerard (2012-12-21 16:35:30)

Guys,

Journal School was a series of blog posts by Ray Blake, which can be found here...

<http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/>

janet (2012-12-21 16:38:52)

So glad I am not alone in liking my own company :)

Anthony Hill (2012-12-21 17:47:29)

I have the current year in my Filofax plus the month of January 2013. I am probably like many Filofaxers who completely remove the diary section at the end of the year and insert the next year. I archive previous years in and old bulging Filofax slip case. Need to buy a storage case or a box to hold extra sheets and my reserve collection of binders Incidentally did anybody notice the Mayan "End of the world" I must have blinked and missed it.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-12-21 18:05:04)

Thanks everyone!

@David- Yes, a few people! Still in very early stages of planning now though!!

Lynne Dove (2012-12-21 18:21:28)

Well said Steve, after all Filofax is why we are all here. My incredibly bounced about Baroque is showing wonderful style and resilience. Credit where credit is due!

Alan Marshall (2012-12-21 23:14:03)

I had the Apocalypse marked in my Filofax. I guess I can ignore it now.

Tonya (2012-12-22 03:05:37)

Thanks Gerard.

Tonya (2012-12-22 03:08:26)

I discovered those Cavellini stickers too, a bit expensive but lovely designs.

kanalt (2012-12-22 06:39:51)

I too would prefer to spend New Year's Day at home, playing with my planner. But it seems we always have one family function or another to attend. At least this year, we don't have plans for New Year's Eve, which is the first in many years. I'm looking forward to staying home and relaxing on the couch.

I have Wuiet on my to-read list, and like many things, it keeps being pushed off. Someday I'll get to it!

kanalt (2012-12-22 06:46:29)

For the most part, my filo is all set to go for 2013. I actually get it all set up in July or August once I've gotten the refills. However, I will spend some time archiving old pages and moving the new ones in. My big 2013 project has to do with my blog and sorting through the huge list of Filofaxy-related blog links. It's one of those projects that I'm looking forward to, but is also quite big that I'm not sure I want to start, lol. Though I felt the same way about sorting through my photos and once I started, I felt much better for it. Hopefully my hard work will pay off in the end!

Web Finds - 22 December 2012 (2012-12-22 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Well the last one before Christmas...

Sadly I will not be posting a Web Finds on Tuesday 25th... I will be busy helping Father Christmas with his deliveries. I applied for the job of FC Assistant (Filofax Product Expert)....

The pay isn't so grand, but you do get to visit a lot of countries in 24 hours. I have received my red and white outfit so I'm ready to go....

In the mean time... here are the latest Filofax posts from around the internet:

1. [2]Filofax Flex Conversion - It's My Life!
2. [3]Call to arms: The hunt for a filo! - Filofaximile
3. [4]Comparing Personal and Pocket - Imysworld
4. [5]Christmas planner thoughts and wishes. - Just an Essex Girl
5. [6]Filofax collection update - Filofax Fantasies
6. [7]Filofax Adventures Part.3 - Behind my Purpley Life
7. [8]Most stylist filofax - Improve my days
8. [9]I'll have a pink Christmas! - Circus Life with Disturbed Mamacita
9. [10]Und jedem Anfang wohnt ein Zauber inne* - Filomaniac
10. [11]Filofax ID - Cloudberry Musings
11. [12]The greatest gift that I possess... - Filofaximile
12. [13]All Stars guest post by Femke: Meditation and relaxation exercises - Anita Lim
13. [14]Is Handwriting Worth Saving? - Rhodia Drive
14. [15]Filofax Tour - This Humble House
15. [16]Filofax for 2013 - Homemakers Daily
16. [17]Filofax disappointment and planner decisions for 2013 - Filo Obsessed
17. [18]A5 lyndhurst - Filofax Fantasies
18. [19]In a planner pickle - Paper Pens Ink
19. [20]Getting into the Christmas Spirit in my A5 - Filo Obsessed
20. [21]Its not about the money money money - Monica Luis
21. [22]My second Filofax - personal size Aston in Orchid - Haitian Girl
22. [23]Filofax Love – My Metropol - The Studentista
23. [24]A disappointing delivery - Filofaximile
24. [25]as we were - Seraphic Wing
25. [26]My A5 Kensington has Arrived! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
26. [27]Using Daytimer Hotlist sheets in a Filofax - Calm and Organised
27. [28]Attempting to review the year... - Paper Pens Ink
28. [29]A5 Inserts! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
29. [30]What's in my Personal Regency? - Coffee & Literature
30. [31]Goal, Resolution, Project, Task: Definitions and Examples - Plannerisms
31. [32]Vintage-Serie - Teil 6: Portland Grün - Filo Manie
32. [33]Wine Holborn - Paper Pens Ink
33. [34]The whole planning shebang... - The Crazy Suburban Mom

34. [35]Getting others to do GTD – free podcast - GTD Times
35. [36]Saving for a Filofax!! - Lady Elizabeth's Life
36. [37]Make your own Personal To Do pages - Filofaximile
37. [38]Filofax Planners - Coffee & Literature

and here are the latest Filofax videos:

IFRAME: [39]http://www.youtube.com/embed/7vMLI_eWI-8?rel=0

IFRAME: [40]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/g9yKDy13ih4?rel=0>

IFRAME: [41]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/C941wdVT3XY?rel=0>

IFRAME: [42]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/vOaC0DnW3JQ?rel=0>

IFRAME: [43]http://www.youtube.com/embed/IHPk-S_xDSA?rel=0

IFRAME: [44]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/fH81rkbHmn0?rel=0>

Enjoy and have a great Christmas....

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-LdpQB3CUB0Q/UNTxXYCSj7I/AAAAAAAA0Ws/x2USMy_9pKc/s1600/1122207_12549393.jpg
2. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.co.uk/2012/12/filofax-flex-conversion.html>
3. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/call-to-arms-hunt-for-filo.html>
4. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/12/comparing-personal-and-pocket.html>
5. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/12/christmas-planner-thoughts-and-wishes.html>
6. <http://filofaxfantasies.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-collection-update.html>
7. <http://mypurpleylelife.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-adventures-part3.html>
8. <http://improveydays.blogspot.fr/2012/12/most-stylist-filofax.html>
9. <http://mamacitascircus.blogspot.fr/2012/12/ill-have-pink-christmas.html>
10. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/12/und-jedem-anfang-wohnt-ein-zauber-inne.html>
11. <http://cloudberrythoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-id.html>
12. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/the-greatest-gift-that-i-possess.html>
13. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.fr/2012/12/all-stars-guest-post-by-femke.html>
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19. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/12/in-planner-pickle.html>
20. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/12/getting-into-christmas-spirit-in-my-a5.html>
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24. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/a-disappointing-delivery.html>
25. <http://arcuschronica.blogspot.fr/2012/12/as-we-were.html>
26. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/12/my-a5-kensington-has-arrived.html>
27. <http://calmandorganised.blogspot.fr/2012/12/using-daytimer-hotlist-sheets-in-filofax.html>
28. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/12/attempting-to-review-year.html>
29. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/12/a5-inserts.html>
30. <http://coffeeandliterature.com/2012/12/whats-in-my-personal-regency/>
31. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/12/goal-resolution-project-task.html>
32. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/12/vintage-serie-teil-6-portland-grun.html>
33. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/12/wine-holborn.html>
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36. <http://ladyelizabethunreallife.blogspot.fr/2012/12/saving-for-filofax.html>
37. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/make-your-own-personal-to-do-pages.html>
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39. http://www.youtube.com/embed/7vMLI_eWI-8?rel=0
40. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/g9yKdy13ih4?rel=0>
41. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/C941wdVT3XY?rel=0>
42. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/v0aC0DnW3JQ?rel=0>
43. http://www.youtube.com/embed/IHPk-S_xDSA?rel=0
44. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/fH81rkbHmn0?rel=0>

LJ (2012-12-22 02:00:59)

What a lovely start to my day. Now I have had my time to read web finds I can start planning the rest of the things I need to do for Christmas - it shouldn't take too long as I have my plans from last year still. Have a fab Christmas!!!

Helen Conway (2012-12-22 03:19:56)

Will you be coming to my house with an Osterley on your sleigh?

Steve Morton (2012-12-22 03:39:49)

Ho ho ho!!! I will have to check my long list....

May (2012-12-22 04:16:46)

Thanks for including me Steve. I have been a LONG time reader of Philofaxy (since the Philofaxer himself was writing all by himself!!) but this is my first foray into blogging about planning (calmandorganised.blogspot.co.uk). Thanks fo your support!

milky (2012-12-22 07:55:12)

Thanks for including me, Steve! I feel very honoured. As a long time lurker and first time poster it's very exciting. Loving the webfinds as always, lots of new blogs to follow

Maggie (2012-12-22 20:56:19)

I have also been a lurker and am somewhat new to filofax. I purchased a pocket chameleon a couple of months ago and it did not take me long to realize that I wanted more. I am so excited that Santa is bringing me a personal malden. Steve, there will be cookies by the tree for you when you stop by my house.

I enjoy seeing all the creative ways filofax is used and so appreciate having such a wealth of knowledge gathered for me at philofaxy. Thank you!

JohnofJenkins (2012-12-23 00:26:34)

Make sure they provide you with two outfits - one for the Northern Hemisphere and one for this little corner of the world where the present temperature is a mere 43c - a tad warm...

Butanben (2012-12-23 10:38:27)

I expect I'll have to leave Santa and Rudolph a pastis and a pain aux mincemeat this year then then Steve!!! Wishing the most magical Christmas to all my fellow Philofaxers around the globe. xxxx

Kristy Sherrod (2012-12-23 17:54:00)

Yay! Thanks for including mine! (Coffee & Literature)! I feel all special now as I love to read these, too!



[1]

This week I would like to introduce you to Linda!

Hi, I'm Linda, Originally from Los Angeles, I now live in Austin, Texas, with my husband, Ira. I have worked in many cities in the US—all in some way connected with being an accountant! Since my son is now grown and has his own place, I have plenty of time for all things Filofax. I don't blog everyday—but when I do, my blog is on Google Blogger, under: "[2]Mindloomer360"

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

Bought my first Filofax in 2008 - a pink zip Finsbury. That same year I added the black zipped one.

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

I have a special place in my heart for calendars. They bring the promise of new chances, new projects, and new organizational Goals to be met..

I've used so many—Franklin-Covey, Coach, Day Runner, and Levenger's Circa System And I haven't even started listing all the electronic scheduling apps I have used—and there's been so many!

Right now I use my iPhone to keep my telephone numbers handy, so I have them always, when I make a call. I currently own an iPad 2, and an iPhone4s

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

My personal Black Ostrich, tied with the personal crimson Malden. Buying the Crimson Malden was an adventure for me; I couldn't get it here in the states, so I bought it from the Filofax online store in France! When I really want a particular Filofax, I will come up with a way a way to find exactly what I'm looking for!

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Here's where I begin to feel guilty: I own 24 (that I know of...

- 1 A-5 Classic
- 5 Pockets
- 17 Personal (varied types)
- 1 Compact

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

All sorts of things—some are for journaling, for recording medical matters, for schedules of medication, schedules of upcoming classic movies and upcoming reading lists.

And the rest of them are merely for me—to pet, smell and look at. I take excellent care of each one of them—but haven't quite started naming them, as yet.

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

The fact that customization was possible, and that there were lots of styles to choose from.

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

I would first fix the problems some have with the plastic bubbling and bending on the classics; then refit

them with a "jointed" section and ring protector, on either side of the rings. That appears to be one way the Finchleys, Decos and others could start out flat, right out of the box. Then I would have all of the models available in the UK and Europe, also available in the US. Ones that are customer favorites could be reordered as a "special order"

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

My A-5 stays at home; she never goes out, since I no longer work. The personals live on my nightstand or are carried in my purse.

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

I really like the personal Ostrich and lizard, both in black, or red. I am in love with most all of the Finchleys, especially the red one. The crimson Malden is also a favorite.

But the only one I WILL buy, if I can ever find it, is the discontinued personal, vintage pink Finchley, of course!

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

My personal Ruby Deco—I think it cost \$250

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

The "Spotlight" section, Webfinds, and Adspot. It's wonderful to visit a site that brings so many of us together, from places all around the world!

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

Nothing at all-it rocks!

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

Adele's first CD

Thank you Linda for agreeing to go under our spotlight. And if anyone else would like to take part in this series then please contact us at: philofaxy at gmail dot com Thank you.

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-cesEscB-0fk/UNWJZ5wclgI/AAAAAAAA0W8/OHZ2fZjvEzg/s1600/photo.JPG>

2. <http://mindloom.blogspot.fr/>

Jennifer Bunagan Reyes (2012-12-23 00:47:30)

Everytime Linda pops up I think "The Lady in Red". She sure does love her Red Filofaxes! Great to know more about you Linda. Just as her quest is to find an Antique Rose Finchley, my quest is to find a Baroque. Linda, I have found them on the Filofax websites for Switzerland and Taiwan, as well as the Baroques. Unfortunately, no price is labeled, and I have no way of contacting them. How I wish it was that easy. If any one has any ideas, please let me know how I can get one into my hands!!!

DEM (2012-12-23 14:31:44)

Great to meet you Linda! Nice to see another Ostrich lover. :-) The picture of (part of) your collection is fantastic! Would love to hear how you use them!!!!

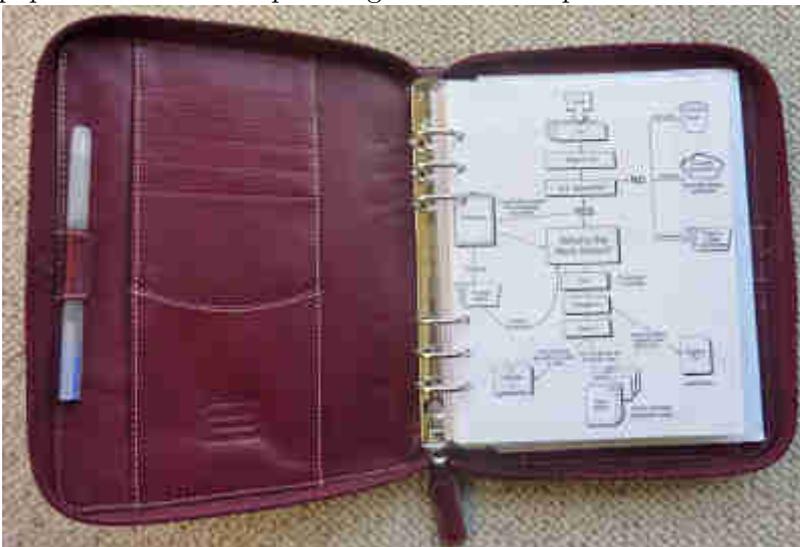
There's something about A5 (2012-12-24 00:00) - Anita Lim

I've previously owned two A5 filofaxes, a [1]vintage pink Malden and a [2]Domino Snake. I returned the Malden and sold the Snake after deciding that A5 is just too big for me as my only binder and I didn't want to own more than one filofax. And then I found myself one night clicking on buy it now on a wine zipped Holborn on eBay for a great price, d'oh. I had planned to maybe give it to a friend, but purchased a blue A5 Finsbury instead as I realised that she would prefer a brighter colour. I had no plans to keep it at that point, but when I opened the packaging its soft leather and gorgeousness started to win me over...



[3]

Steve wrote a great review about his brown one [4]here which I enjoyed reading, and I found myself absent-mindedly stroking Saz's lovely wine A5 one at the Philofaxy meet up, so I knew I already liked them. I think the soft pliable leather and contrast stitching is what I also like about the Maldens. I've also realised that I can't fit everything into a personal sized filo and a zipped A5 is so handy for popping paperwork into, zipping it shut and it's ready to pick up to finish at a later time. I don't have a huge amount in it yet, but its main uses will be for reading and working on projects as I find personal size paper a bit small for planning and mind maps.



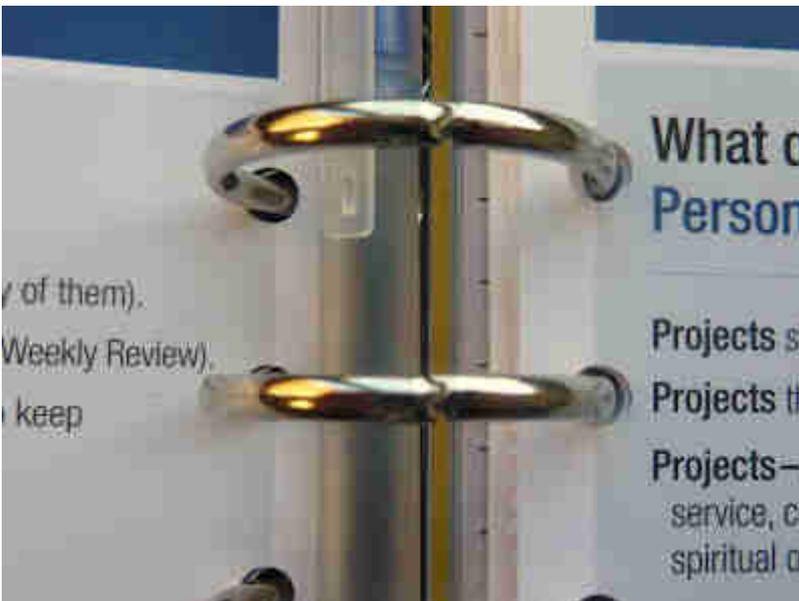
[5]
workflow map as my flyleaf

Laminated Getting Things Done



[6]

I've realised that I'm now comfortable with owning more than one file, so one personal and one A5 is going to be perfect for my needs in terms of both portability and extra writing space. My only slight concern is the gappy top two rings which have appeared as it's started lying flatter but they don't seem to have got worse and paper doesn't catch on it, so fingers crossed.



[7]

Here is my dream team :)



[8]



[9]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/all-change-on-filofax-front-guest-post.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/a5-revisited.html>
3. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-duWUKVpKCqo/UMyW8x4KQSI/AAAAAAAAABM4/edYcRvh4LCI/s1600/P1030866.JPG>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/filofax-a5-holborn-zip-review.html>
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-2UgPJMvph5Q/UMydBrDV_KI/AAAAAAAAABNg/ipSMpXnakrs/s1600/P1030870.JPG
6. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-UNTVPZ7IGhY/UMydfjVLskI/AAAAAAAAABNo/8trUK5wom1A/s1600/P1030871.JPG>
7. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-3v1rCaK7Bec/UMyg5oiCzhI/AAAAAAAAABOI/jzSZWQHAPuY/s1600/P1030874.JPG>
8. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-iF-K0AWEHHS/UMyf3Iy0QfI/AAAAAAAAABOA/74FUYQSBTCY/s1600/P1030920.JPG>
9. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-BNr3hefEM8U/UMyj4Gx8y-I/AAAAAAAAABOg/JmR6HZKnQ0A/s1600/P1030915.JPG>

Steve Morton (2012-12-24 05:37:27)

A nice combination of the Holborn and Malden.

Butanben (2012-12-24 05:37:28)

I use my personal as a GTD folder, and then every week I decant this week's priority to dos from this folder onto my weekly pages in my A5 Cuban ink. Works for me!! I use an oyster coloured sketch for my GTDs, picked up as a £12 bargain from Homesense. I just love the colour.

Hamish MacBear (2012-12-24 07:32:12)

Spooky, that is also my Dream Team - I love my A5 Wine zipped Holborn, and recently managed to get a crimson personal Malden. I currently use the A5 as my main diary / planner and notebook, and print out my task list from Toodledo each week and insert it into the A5. I would like to have the Malden as a smaller diary that I can throw in a bag and take with me when the A5 is just too big.

AudsJ (2012-12-24 10:38:43)

I was purchasing a personal Deco last week online and was so sure it. I'll be the One. I then wandered into a local stationers for new inserts and inadvertently came face to face with the first A5 I have ever seen in person. The Luxe A5 in black. It was stunning. I clutched it to my chest as I walked about the little shop, in disbelief that having found and bought the Deco online felt like a curse. From that moment, I was set on the Luxe. The shop had it priced at \$175.00. I forced myself to put it down, quickly paid for my inserts, walked outside and checked online for the Luxe. CAN YOU EVEN BELIEVE this was the very day that Filofax US had the Luxe on special, with free shipping to boot?! I clicked and it was mine. It arrived Wednesday, but I didn't open it until last night. I tried to tell myself I wouldn't like it as much as I thought, but really, it's so stunning. It is my first A5, so I too will be figuring out if using it in tandem with one of my Personals is workable for me. (And while I'm at it, I may as well say, I'm expecting a Personal Amazona to arrive today!) I will be keeping up with you to see how this works, and possibly to steal some of your ideas ;)

Suus S (2012-12-24 11:00:54)

Love the combination. Very nice. I also had laid my eyes on the Holborn. I also have a Malden, but the purple one. And I have a very beautiful Finsbury Antique Rose. And love the combi. I had an A 5 in my hands and put it back. I looked on line for an A 5, and keep telling myself: it is too big! But when I saw the Antique Rose I was sold. And the combination of Personal and A5 works perfect. The personal goes everywhere and the A 5 stays at home. The A 5 is more of a big notebook where I put thoughts, dates and appointments home related, meals plans etc.

Alison (2012-12-24 12:10:44)

I have the wine A5 Zip and I love it, mine is used as my reading/movie filofax. Love your dream team, thanks for sharing :-)

mppaul2 (2012-12-24 12:37:01)

Very nice! I am considering the same purchase (An A5 Holborn in Whine) to accompany my one and only FF, a red personal finchley . You have helped make the case for my decision :-)

Anita (2012-12-25 12:02:52)

I agree, Steve! The Malden & Holborns are definitely my two favourites.

Jarfm.com (2012-12-30 18:45:32)

I somehow missed this in the Yuletide goings on!

Love that you now have the Holborn :) I still really love mine and consequently still have the purple Malden A5 I purchased at the meet up in its box in my cupboard at present! I'm very jealous of the personal crimson Malden, I know I have the pocket size crimson but I would like a personal one to see if I can do personal - and well, they just look and feel lovely!!!

I like the look of the actual binder in the Malden and Holborn personal size now I have seen more of them, but as you say in your post Anita, the page size is not quite right for certain things. But they look so lovely... :) Hope you continue to enjoy the Holborn and Malden throughout 2013 and beyond :)

Jarfm.com (2012-12-30 18:45:59)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Free For All Tuesday No. 99 (2012-12-25 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Happy Christmas!

How keen are you to escape from building models and repairing toys today?

Tuesdays are your chance to ask any Filofax related questions you might have.

So fire away and we will collectively try to answer your questions or offer opinions.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-v114ypHOYfk/Tu3kATjp6tI/AAAAAAAAAJ-U/VVAIXb-LG0s/s1600/IMG_0685a.jpg

Paul B (2012-12-25 00:22:33)

Happy Christmas everyone. I hope you all have a peaceful and enjoyable day.

WeirdRockStar (2012-12-25 03:11:47)

Wishing everybody the best!

I actually am taking a much needed break from building Titanic models (gaaarhrrhhh!) here on Philofaxy and am armed with a fairly clear plan of using planners on 2013. Some issues I had this year will be dealt with and by mapping out it became very logical how to wield this entire enchilada. See, I have it all planned on paper already.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-12-25 03:32:44)

Merry Christmas everyone!!

I am excitedly awaiting my present of a personal plum Osterley, hoping beyond hope it has perfect rings! Fingers crossed!!

Hope everybody has a fantastic day :)

David Popely (2012-12-25 04:31:02)

Merry Christmas everyone.....I'm expecting nothing Filofax-related this year, but for those of you who are, I hope the size/colour/rng condition is just what you wanted!

Nellie (2012-12-25 05:32:39)

Merry Christmas everyone! I hope you all have a wonderful day!

Amy @PatchworkHome (2012-12-25 06:20:13)

Ahh I read your post about the orange one, glad you decided to go for it! Hope you don't have any problems with it...enjoy! :)

WeirdRockStar (2012-12-25 08:06:38)

WUZZAHHH! I just finished printing my updated new & shiny cleaning lists. I made a weekly list, divided the said chores to days, then divided rooms into zones and made detailed cleaning lists for said zones. I then shoved the motherload to Balmoral (after I manage to finally get that Malden- actually, there are two to get- from store, it'll start working as a house planner and Balmoral will serve as interior decorating place to make notes, gather ideasetc. but for now the Balmoral is my home planner)

I just updated this weeks cleaning and sorting from Balmoral, to my new & shiny A5 planner with a day per page

and this thing works like clockwork! This system is a fantastic one. So pleased to this system and so glad I took the time to get this done properly.

AudsJ (2012-12-25 09:50:01)

Merry Christmas, everyone! The rings on my Christmas Amazona do have slight gaps— will have to decide about returning it or putting it on AdSpot if I can't move beyond it. Really is lovely though! I hope everyone gets just what they wanted!

AudsJ (2012-12-25 10:54:20)

I do hope we will get a tour of the Osterly soon then! :)

Alan Marshall (2012-12-25 11:06:04)

Merry Christmas to All!

Alison Reeves (2012-12-25 12:36:49)

Merry Christmas everyone. Entertaining the 'oldies'. Watching Dr Who just now. I had nothing Filofax related - a lot of nail products this year - will look glamorous in 2013!

Alison (2012-12-25 13:24:24)

Merry Christmas, i finally took delivery of a Personal Brown Holborn without faulty rings so going to work on my set-up over the next few days.

MySummerTouch (2012-12-25 22:46:17)

Merry Christmas!

I wonder, what kind of ring each Filofax has? Do Filofax has its own company to produce those rings or this is just bought from somebody else?

amanda (2012-12-26 23:22:24)

Hi everyone! I got my new 2013 refill for Christmas, and when setting it up was transferring my registration page. My husband noticed it, and asked about it... and wondered, "what is the free gift"? So, not that we ever hope to need use of this service, has anyone heard of anyone receiving the free gift, or received it yourself for returning a lost filofax? My curiosity has gotten the best of me, and I must know :-)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-12-27 17:18:16)

well???

David Popely (2012-12-28 04:27:39)

Waiting here too.....:)

12 Days of Christmas 2012 (2012-12-25 03:00) - Steve Morton

I thought we would up date our [1]12 Days of Christmas song from last year.....

On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

A Holborn in a Personal size.

On the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

2 Regency pockets

And a Holborn in a Personal size..

On the third day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

3 Finsbury compacts

2 Regency pockets

And a Holborn in a Personal size..

On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

4 Boston pockets
 3 Finsbury compacts
 2 Regency pockets
 And a Holborn in a Personal size..
 On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...
 5 Malden A5s
 4 Boston pockets
 3 Finsbury compacts
 2 Regency pockets
 And a Holborn in a Personal size..
 On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...
 6 Osterley Personals
 5 Malden A5s
 4 Boston pockets
 3 Finsbury compacts
 2 Regency pockets
 And a Holborn in a Personal size..
 On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...
 7 Enigma Pockets
 6 Osterley Personals
 5 Malden A5s
 4 Boston pockets
 3 Finsbury compacts
 2 Regency pockets
 And a Holborn in a Personal size..
 On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...
 8 Classic A4's
 7 Enigma Pockets
 6 Osterley Personals
 5 Malden A5s
 4 Boston pockets
 3 Finsbury compacts
 2 Regency pockets
 And a Holborn in a Personal size..
 On the ninth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...
 9 Holborn Pockets
 8 Classic A4's
 7 Enigma Pockets
 6 Osterley Personals
 5 Malden A5s
 4 Boston pockets
 3 Finsbury compacts
 2 Regency pockets
 And a Holborn in a Personal size..
 On the tenth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...
 10 Cuban Zips
 9 Holborn Pockets
 8 Classic A4's
 7 Enigma Pockets
 6 Osterley Personals
 5 Malden A5s
 4 Boston pockets
 3 Finsbury compacts

2 Regency pockets
And a Holborn in a Personal size..
On the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

11 Aston Minis
10 Cuban Zips
9 Holborn Pockets
8 Classic A4's
7 Enigma Pockets
6 Osterley Personals
5 Malden A5s
4 Boston pockets
3 Finsbury compacts
2 Regency pockets

And a Holborn in a Personal size..
On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

12 Aqua Malden Personals
11 Aston Minis
10 Cuban Zips
9 Holborn Pockets
8 Classic A4's
7 Enigma Pockets
6 Osterley Personals
5 Malden A5s
4 Boston pockets
3 Finsbury compacts
2 Regency pockets

And a Holborn in a Personal size..

And no Alice Temperley's ... sorry Alice not even Santa could afford your prices!

And that's how you can get 364 Filofax Organisers.... 1 on the first day, 3 on the second, 6 on the third day etc.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/12-days-of-christmas.html>

Suus S (2012-12-25 03:10:52)

Hahaha, Steve. Brilliant! This is going to be my all favorite Christmas song. Have a Merry Christmas!

ClaireEJ (2012-12-25 03:37:49)

Genius lol. Merry Christmas, Joyeux Noel, and thank you for such a great website/community here. Cxx

LJ (2012-12-25 04:45:14)

Now that would be an awesome Christmas!!!

Deborah- Jane (2012-12-25 04:54:09)

Brilliant Christmas Song Steve...

Steve Morton (2012-12-25 04:57:19)

The 12th Day has a little hint of what you might find in the 2013 range.....

Happy Christmas

Steve

Chrissie's Universe (2012-12-25 06:07:47)

UUUUH!The question is: WHERE IS MY TRUE LOVE??? *LOL*

Happy Christmas to all of you :o)

Laurie (2012-12-25 06:26:42)
Steve this is genius!!!
Merry Christmas everyone!!

Suzee (2012-12-25 09:13:40)
LOL love it.. cute! Now Id like to find a true love like that!!! Merry Christmas to you all!

Butanben (2012-12-25 09:24:20)
Thanks Steve..... I've been singing along!! Love the fact that there is a hint in the last verse....Hope you've had a wonderful Christmas morning!! Sat here in front of Dad's cosy toes fire, having opened some gorgeous and such thoughtful presents and having had a warming bowl of homemade soup..... the other courses are to follow later!! Ho, Ho, Ho..... !! After a little nap maybe!!A happy and joyous Christmas Day to all Philofaxers!! xxxx

Sirpa-Kaarina (2012-12-25 09:48:09)
Love this song. Thank You!

Helen Conway (2012-12-25 10:05:39)
I wish! I did get a purple glitter gel pen in my cracker though:)

Anthony Hill (2012-12-25 12:34:47)
Many thanks Steve brilliant alterate version better than the original. One question where am I to put all of them.
Merry Christmas everyone

EmmaNoey (2012-12-25 12:53:22)
Aqua maldens? I may have to give that some serious consideration. Merry Christmas, everyone.

industrious housewife (2012-12-25 13:22:57)
Oh my gosh, aqua malden, nom.
I'm still hoping for a banana yellow one, think that would be quite buttery with the leather. Off to look at the aqua malden ipad covers and imagine...

DEM (2012-12-25 16:43:10)
Well done, Steve! That twelfth day sounds very interesting!!
Merry Christmas everyone!

Jennifer Bunagan Reyes (2012-12-26 18:27:37)
Aqua Malden! Squeaks!!! Can't wait to see what 2013 brings!!! =X

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-12-27 17:17:32)
I was going to do one of these too... Never got past on the first day - a winchester from eebayyyy :)

Welcome to Philofaxy. (2012-12-26 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
- [6]Google Plus, there is a new Philofaxy Community on Google Plus.
- Flickr - As mentioned above there is a [7]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.

You will also find a lot more links to our various activities on the web in this [8]previous post.

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 [9]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 [10]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.

Guest Posts on Philofaxy

We welcome people to do guest posts on Philofaxy, but they must be about ring bound planners of some type or be associated with planners, time management in some way. We do not respond to requests to post links along with guest posts about pensions, raising a family, investment opportunities in the Scilly Isles, etc. etc.... yes we get frequent offers like this in the Philofaxy in-box! If you would like to do a genuine guest post [11]this post will be a great help to you.

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/0JaNjmjzB28/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. <https://plus.google.com/communities/114959291933502933568>
7. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/40748476@N00/>
8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/09/philofaxy-and-filofax-in-other-places.html>
9. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Round-table>
10. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Meet-Up>
11. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/07/guest-posting-on-philofaxy.html>

June (2012-12-26 08:45:33)

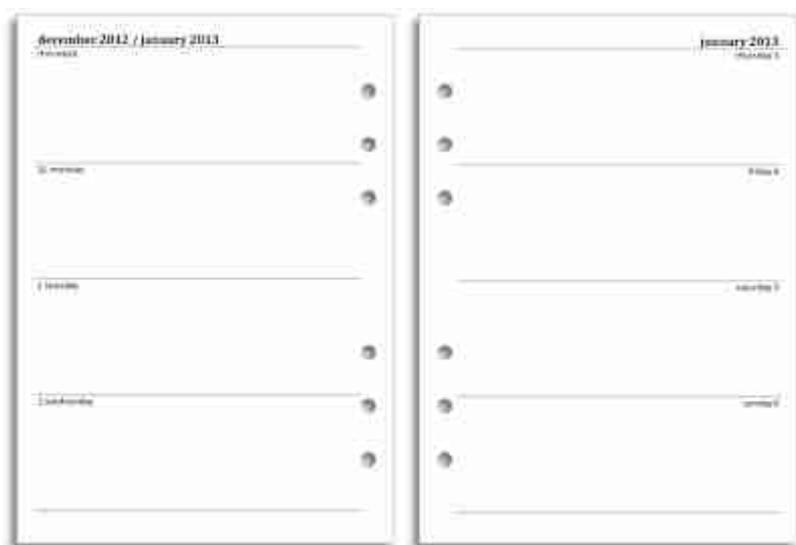
Thankyou .. some of it I had found but other sections I didnt know existed, so its a great help to me
This is a must read every day, some might say that's sad but we all know on here its not, its a highlight of the day
long may it be so
June

New Filofax diary layout to download – CC inspired A5 and Personal (2012-12-27 00:00) - Steve Morton

It's been a while since we've published a new layout, but this one was a special request. Ray and I often get requests from readers of Philofaxy and My Life All In One Place and usually we're happy to oblige, although because of the various other demands on our time it won't always be overnight.

A reader who liked the [1]Personal CC inspired layout asked if we could produce an A5 version. Well, of course we could.

Here it is:



[2]

The CC look is clean and uncluttered and respects weekends when so many layouts seem to consider them an inconvenience.

You can download a 2013 set as either a [3]Word file or a [4]PDF file. They are created as A4 documents. To use them as A5 inserts, print the document in [5]booklet mode on A4 paper, then use a guillotine to divide each sheet into two and punch the required holes, which the templates are set up with mirrored gutters to accommodate. Or, if you have A5 paper, then either the printer or the PC will scale it to size for you.

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.

If you want to tinker, you can download the [6]Word base file and the [7]Excel data file. (You will need both files) 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.)

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.

Additionally we also have a Personal size version of this layout on Personal Paper available.

You can download a 2013 set as either a [8]Word file or a [9]PDF file. To print the document on Personal Paper you might find this help guide useful.

Similarly if you wish to make your own alterations to the files you can download the [10]Word Base file and the [11]Excel data file (You will need both file).

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.)

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1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/09/new-filofax-personal-layout-week-per.html>
2. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-P-Z9n8kCKQg/UM2mHpclvuI/AAAAAAAAABkI/K8HhMUcDMXk/s1600/A5new.png>
3. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/A4_A5%20WTV%20CC/2013%20merged%20cc%20A4.docx
4. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/A4_A5%20WTV%20CC/2013%20merged%20cc%20A4.pdf
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>
6. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/A4_A5%20WTV%20CC/Base%20diary%20cc%20A4.docx
7. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/A4_A5%20WTV%20CC/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP_CC.xlsx
8. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/2013%20merged%20diary%20cc%20Personal%20size%20paper.docx>
9. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/2013%20merged%20diary%20cc%20Personal%20size%20paper.docx>
10. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/Base%20diary%20cc%20Personal%20size%20paper.docx>
11. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP_CC_Personal.xlsx

Alison Reeves (2012-12-27 11:02:54)

Thanks for this Steve. Is there any chance we could have the Personal day on two pages on Personal size paper rather than A4? Not sure how much work is involved in outputting the the personal size paper.

Steve Morton (2012-12-27 11:08:03)

So the A4 design but on Personal paper? I think we can manage that. Might take a little while to do, but it is possible.

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-12-27 12:59:41)

I much prefer printing direct onto personal paper - it's much easier with my printer - I seem to have problems lining up the A4 - it never seems to be right when I come to trim it! Must be the way my mind works!

David Popely (2012-12-27 16:51:10)

I agree Alison....all that cutting and punching doesn't do anything for me. I prefer to print straight onto pre-punched FF plain Personal sized paper. Getting the right sized output was easier in Ms Word 2007 than it is in 2010, which now picks up all its paper sizes from those held by the printer itself, but it's not impossible to create a blank template for Personal size (I have one which I use regularly). I can send you one if I haven't already....just let me know

Alison Reeves (2012-12-27 17:58:11)

Thanks David - I'm pretty proficient in Word 2010 and have several ones I have created. It's the day on two pages diary I'm interested in! I'm aiming for all cream - diary and lists. There are quite a few diary formats that you can't even buy in cream even if you want to, and the day to a page and 2 pages a day are among them. At this rate I'm going to need much bigger rings!

David Popely (2012-12-28 04:26:33)

Are 30mm the largest available size for Personal size binders? I'm prepared to allow and consider non-FF binders here.....

Free For All Friday No. 215 (2012-12-28 00:00) - Anita Lim

I hope you had a lovely Christmas!

Presents unwrapped, turkey eaten and some of you may have already visited the sales.

I wrote this post in advance, just in case the world didn't end...

So, did Santa bring you any Filofaxes? I am very grateful for my gifts, but I really wouldn't want someone to buy me one without discussing it with me first ("An Apex? Really, you shouldn't have"). My Mum-in-law very kindly gave me some money towards my A5 zipped Holborn.

Here's to a wonderful 2013 for you all, and please feel free to discuss anything Filofax or ring bound organiser related.

Steve Morton (2012-12-28 03:50:06)

I hope everyone has had an exciting and relaxing Christmas in equal amounts!

Santa brought me a nice Waterman fountain pen, which fits in to the smaller right hand pen loop of my A5 Malden. I'm going to be using it for my journal writing next year. Still using Frixion pens for my planners etc.

Just before Christmas a present to myself arrived from Holland, a KW Trio hole punch. I will be doing a write up about this in the next few days so you can see the differences between this punch and the Filofax punch.

Alison (the hand of Philofaxy!) now has a Plannerisms planner.. I'm gradually converting her back to paper! She has been using her old Filofax recently... a Guest post about that soon too.

What have you been up to this week then?

David Popely (2012-12-28 04:21:58)

Happy New Year everyone. DW and I had an agreement that we wouldn't exchange presents this year as we're moving (again....) in February, so we contented ourselves with eating our body weights in ham and chicken and watching rubbish (and sport in my case) on television. Off to our friends in Penybanc tomorrow, and G and I will go to Parc Y Scarlets to watch Llanelli vs Swansea (the local game having already been called off due to the industrial quantity of rain which has fallen here), while S. and DW talk sewing patterns.

Today is Filofax Day! The final day of the Annual Review, which is a bit like the Weekly review, only deals with all the various GTD 'levels of perspective'. I've been mulling this over since last weekend, because I don't find goal-setting to be something I can do in five minutes, but today it all gets committed to paper, all the lists get re-done, and we are ready to start again afresh and anew, next Wednesday (if we don't get carried away before that and start back on Monday).

Here's hoping all your goals are achieved in 2013 - with the aid of proper planning, of course!

industrious housewife (2012-12-28 04:32:22)

We've had a hectic week, various stresses and illing children, but a lovely time nonetheless. Not a single Filofax related present, but then my husband knows how particular I am. :-D

I did however get the Lamy Safari pen I've been lusting after.

I do have a Week on 2 pages insert for my Personal Development A5 filo winging its way to me, in which I will be logging food, exercise, and other things like weather and accomplishments.

I got my new 2013 set up sorted before Christmas and I'm loving it so far - Personal Dodopad, and then plain lined pages which I write the date on the top and then list my to dos and plan out the day.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-28 05:02:32)

I have a franklin covey ring binder where the bottom 'rivet' appears to have gone missing. It sits on a protrusion but nothing on top to keep it in place. Can anyone tell me if I can repair this please and if so how I go about it? Thanks!

Maus (2012-12-28 05:11:06)

I've brout leather problems like this to my shoemaker several times.

He's solved every problem so far. He's got the right ideas, not only concerning shoes, but also wallets, organisers etc.

Regards, Renate from Filo-Manie :-)

Maus (2012-12-28 05:11:45)

brout = brought

sorry :-o

Butanben (2012-12-28 06:13:30)

Having printed off my A5 TM diary,I am contemplating a TM modification, to slim down my diary contents already!!!! It's not even January yet and I want to make diary adjustmentsNot a planner fail though, just a tweak.Heee Heee!! Had a lovely Christmas.....especially lovely to have been spoilt with delicious meals and treats and gorgeous gifts,which I can't normally afford, just now.So it all seems just awesome and extra special.I'll certainly have to get going on a diet section for my planner!! Love to one and all at Filofaxy. xxxx

Helen Conway (2012-12-28 06:42:17)

No filofax products for me. Husband said he wouldn't know what to get. That's despite me wandering around the house for three weeks in December saying, "Whats for tea? Is it a Crimson Malden?" and "Shall we go out for the day? We might see a Crimson Malden from France." Ah well. Thats why I have my own bank account should I decide to treat myself in the New Year. I don't suppose anyone wants to sell one?! And I did get lots of other goodies. But the weekend is set aside for Filofax rejigging and new set ups (and online ordering of essential sticky notes and pens and paper!)and New Years day itself for goal setting.

Suus S (2012-12-28 08:24:14)

The same here! I have been talking about the Holborn Wine for several weeks. We went after Christmas to the city, just 'to see' the Holborn. Nothing! Ah, well, I do have the Malden, which I am still very happy about. And maybe I will give myself a treat and buy the Holborn.

David Popely (2012-12-28 10:03:52)

As part of my 'slimming down' exercise prior to moving, I have a quantity of TMI size paper to dispose of. This is *not* the same as FF Personal size, it is 180mm x 110mm, although the punched holes will match FF Personal configuration. This may or may not be the same size as FC inserts, I don't know.

I have a good quantity of pre-printed TMI forms across all sections, plus around 200 sheets of single sheet plain white laser/inkjet quality paper, and I'm happy to let the whole lot go for around £20 + postage.

I also have a beautiful TMI binder in black leather, with a wrap-around clasp fixing. You can see a picture at <http://shop.timemanager.com/shop/uk/executive-black-originalformat-731p.html>

The retail new at a very reasonable £77.50 + VAT (£93 in total), plus a few pounds for p & p, and are light years better in quality than anything made by Filofax. If anyone's interested I'd be prepared to let the binder go for around £50, or come to an arrangement for binder, plus all the refills, plus the TMI hard copy manual.

I'd really like this stuff to go to a good home.....if anyone's interested drop me an email via davidpopely (at) googlemail (dot) com

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-28 10:43:28)

I am lucky enough to have a Franklin Covey store nearby, and some of the planners can be modified with different rings. It sounds like that's the case with yours. You could take the binder to a hardware store and see if they can find a replacement screw for you. That's probably all it needs. And I think an allen wrench will be your tool of choice. If you lived near me, my husband could most likely fix it for you. But I'm guessing it's an easy fix for the right person.

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-28 10:45:50)

Men don't always pick up on those clues, Helen. Several years ago my wedding ring bit the dust. It was an

inexpensive one to start with and I had repaired it several times. In the meantime, I was wearing a plain band and I hated it. I didn't realize how much I looked at my old ring. Anyway, I hinted and hinted and hinted about a new ring and my husband just didn't get it. Finally my daughter took him aside and said, "Dad. You need to buy her a new ring." We went out within a few days and he bought me a new ring. Sometimes hints just don't cut it! :)

Homemakersdaily.com (2012-12-28 10:49:24)

Had a great Christmas day with my family - 18 for lunch! We considered a non-traditional meal this year, since we'd already had the traditional one at Thanksgiving, but in the end I couldn't do it. So I spent hours cooking! But it was worth it. Heck - we only do it twice a year.

I did purchase a Filofax for my daughter. She was using my Holborn but she really liked the blue Apex. I don't know why - I think leather is always the way to go. But I got it for her and she loved it. She gave me back the Holborn after she loaded the Apex.

She used to use Franklin Covey classic size but never really used it properly. She loves Filofax and says it makes her feel more creative. She never made any modifications to the FC but she's doing all kinds of cool things to her Filofax. It's fun to see her using her planner better. She has a busy life & she needs it! She's like her mother - her life falls apart if she doesn't use her planner.

Edin78 (2012-12-28 11:43:14)

Hi Helen, I have a Crimson Malden in Personal size that I'm considering selling. You can email me at egypt1920@blueyonder.co.uk to discuss.

Sometimes husbands just don't pick up our subtle hints, do they? lol

Alan Marshall (2012-12-28 12:05:33)

Three wonderful days of Christmas celebrations are done and I managed not to do damage to my waistline. Now we prepare for New Years, which in our family, is probably bigger than Christmas.

No new Filofaxen, unless you count the early gift to myself of the Slimline Finsbury. It's flatability is improving, but it does not slide in and out of some of my jacket pockets easily, and the rings are FAR to stiff and have not shown signs of loosening. (Besides, the way I see it is that the rings should stay consistent. If they loosened with use, then it stands to reason that they will eventually become too loose, n'est pas?)

I was successful chasing down some 16lb/60gsm paper, which I have yet to open. The ream is proportionately slimmer, and I look forward to slimming down my inserts over time. Its too late for my 2013 diary, which is printed and well-populated with appointments.

Alan Marshall (2012-12-28 12:08:45)

I wanted to mention, that we did not have a "White Christmas", but were blessed with 15 cm of powdery snow overnight Dec. 26/27. The neighborhood was so beautiful with the lights glimmering under the layer of snow.

Sarahb1 (2012-12-28 12:21:43)

Hello all! I've lurked for quite a while on this site and been a paper planner and office supply freak for years... this fall I got my first Filofax, a pocket purple Domino. Very nice, lightweight, big pen loop. Then on sale I got a pocket Chameleon. Then on sale I got a pocket Aston... now I have just ordered a purple pocket Malden. I confess all this to you here since I know you will understand!

I have a couple of questions that I hope someone can answer for me:

- 1) What diameter pen can fit into the pen loop of a pocket Malden?
- 2) Do the Filofax ball pens (the ones less than \$50) take a standard D1 refill (widely available in multiple colors) or is it a proprietary refill only available from FF?
- 3) There are two styles of month pages - I currently have the tabbed vertical kind which are thicker, more of a card-stock paper. Are the squared style a thick paper also, or are they made of the regular FF paper? Are they a back to back style, or can they be interleaved with daily or weekly pages?
- 4) Does anyone know of a guide for printing A4 sized templates on US Letter sized paper?

Thanks!

AudsJ (2012-12-28 13:59:34)

A5 Luxe in black, personal Amazona in black, personal Deco in Ruby. Rings on Amazona are ever so slightly 'gappy,' still considering my options..... It really is beautiful though! Sounds like we all got some good stuff!

Alison Reeves (2012-12-28 14:06:35)

Thanks - ill probably try my local hardware store that does repairs, cuts keys etc. they may be able to help.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-28 14:14:57)

I found out by accident really that my brother had got one of my nieces a pink domino. I bought her sister the bronze snake some time ago and she has not really taken to it, but my other niece is apparently smitten. She was a little put out because hers didn't come with some inserts she wanted (eg world map and printed dividers - she only got the ones numbered 1-6). Anyhow I have made up a little package with said lacking inserts and a few extras to post to her. She is only 11 but I think she is the sort to really take to it! Not sure why this pleases me so much!

Oberon De Monet (2012-12-28 14:51:03)

As a recent convert (matter of days lol) I have treated myself to a black personal Identity as they were half price in a closing-down Staples. I was tempted by the pink Metropol but it had some damage and the store were unwilling to knock any more off. I was also chuffed to see that the personal Lyndhurst I had ordered from Ebay was supposed to be £65 - I paid 7.99 including postage!

Butanben (2012-12-28 15:21:17)

Aww Alison, what a lovely thing to do. How thoughtful! I am sure that your niece will love that!!

WeirdRockStar (2012-12-28 15:35:15)

Welcome to the Dark Side, Oberon De Monet.

Alison (2012-12-28 16:00:21)

I've had a lovely christmas but one of my twins has been ill, he spent last christmas in hospital bless him, so far we've managed to stay away but if there is no improvement tomorrow i'm afraid we'll be going back again :-(
As for Filofax, I treated myself just before christmas to a Personal Holborn and a Compact because you just never know lol.

I hinted to my husband all the way round the Trafford Centre today for a new Fossil bag but he completely ignored me :-(

I'm more or less set up for next year, just need to do some goal planning.

Maus (2012-12-28 16:07:57)

Helen,

there's one on sale on Ebay.de

http://www.ebay.de/itm/FILOFAX-Personal-Malden-Organizer-rot-167-/350678800755?pt=Zeitplaner_einlagen&hash=item51a615d973#ht_500wt_1055

Shipping worldwide!

Good luck!!! :-)

Oberon De Monet (2012-12-28 16:46:11)

Thanks! Already my other half has labelled me as weird. Until I pulled out my new baby in the soft-play whilst the kids ran about and proceeded to plan the next few weeks. Think he wants one now...

Alison Reeves (2012-12-28 17:14:46)

Thanks Jane - just so pleased to see the next generation showing an interest - she loves pens too - I got her a children's fountain pen a couple of years ago which she still uses.

Alison Reeves (2012-12-28 18:09:26)

Sorry to hear one of your children is not well - I hope he improves overnight.

Cruz Johnson (2012-12-28 18:19:31)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Cruz Johnson (2012-12-28 18:20:08)

I've got a Pens & Leather order on its way to me; apparently it left Miami on 19 December. Can anyone give me a rough idea as to how long it should take to reach Wellington, New Zealand? And yes, ordering less than ten days before Christmas was probably a stupid idea...

Ding Dong (2012-12-28 18:48:20)

After years of Filofax, I have migrated in favour of Arc which is being sold in Staples. I am impressed, as it is a clever and innovative design. The Arc range is a customisable Notebook (paper kind not PC laptop). Arc make a variety of re-fills including todo lists, but they don't do a diary re-fill.

Their design is clever, it is not a ring binder, but a set of 12 discs, where you can insert or remove pages with ease. You can keep turning pages, just like a 'spiral' notebook. So you have the benefits of a 'spiral' notebook, combined with the benefits of a ring binder, where you can remove and insert pages.

I dislike the A4 Filofax binders, because they are heavy like bricks. The Arc is a very simple lightweight notebook. It works for me, as I wanted a combined NOTEBOOK and DIARY. For the Diary, I will need to print off from a PC, as Filofax still don't make an A4 in week-per-page. Their A4 filofax are still designed to be 'deskbound' rather than some people like myself want a diary/notebook based on the de facto A4 standard.

There are some nice demos on Staple's web site.....

Cassandra (2012-12-28 20:52:19)

I bought my 17 yob the junior arc and everything to go with it and got his sister to buy him a mini black chameleon while they were on sale. Of all 6 of us, he was busy enjoying his gifts all day.

For myself I had ordered a personal Holborn, but it arrived with gapping rings and I sent it right back. I ordered a FC compact Lucca-very nice! One inch rings has 2 pen loops and 1 full length pocket on each side same as the Holborn, but it had two gapping rings so I returned it also. Then Sunday I ordered a personal orchid Aston, it is supposed to be here tomorrow-priority mail claims 2 days, but they always take a full week. So what will I do with 3 when they all finally arrive???? I currently use a FC classic, my daughter took over my A5 raspberry Finsbury that I bought in October and I have a red pocket chameleon that I love! My new obsession started 2 months ago and I still want a ochre malden, soooooo-I tell only you because everybody else is sure I'm cracked!!!!!! Happy New Year!

Cruz Johnson (2012-12-29 01:00:01)

Cancel that - according to my flatmate, it arrived today! Eleven days from Hallandale, FL to New Zealand's capital, in the Christmas rush - not bad!

Lalaboobaby (2012-12-29 02:23:13)

Purchased yesterday personal size Holborn in wine from local retailer. Beautiful binder, classy looking with the cream colored stitching. Will use my pink Apex for storing extra sheets I guess. Still contemplating purchasing an A5 size Filo in February that will be used for work. Time will tell as I'm smitten by the Filofax bug.

Butanben (2012-12-29 09:28:24)

Hope your wee one is better soon!!xx

SimonT (2012-12-30 02:25:50)

My wife bought me a purple pennybridge I bought her a lyndhurst

skybluepinkish (2012-12-30 06:54:08)

My husband wouldn't dare buy me anything to do with planners. He doesn't use them (and boy does it show!) and keeps lists on scraps of paper. How we have managed to stay married for 20 years is beyond me! However,

it might have something to do with the fact that he is otherwise a brilliant present shopper and another little Mulberry handbag joined it's cousins this Christmas. Every single one purchased on Ebay and every single one just quite delicious :) The really wierd coincidences were that we both bought each other saltpetre and smoked salt as foodie stocking presents!

Alison (2012-12-31 09:58:12)

Thanks, he's still not right yet but is much better than he was.

Anthony Hill (2012-12-31 17:23:39)

I've sent an email to you asking about the family, hope everything is alright now.

MTMTE (2013-01-02 23:16:14)

I too purchased an ARC to suit my A4 needs at work...having experienced the mobility and flexibility of FFs I can't imagine using a bound book. I'd been looking at the A4 holborn with handle as an all-purpose office-in-a-bag solution but the price turned me away. I have yet to set up the ARC but so far I love it...the number of disks make the pages far more sturdy than I was imagining, and the poly cover is very light weight. Superb paper quality also.

Smi gin (2013-01-03 07:19:15)

I didn't get the beloved a ffax as she is still stuck using a slim diary and can't see beyond that BUT hope upon hope is on the horizon. My daughter purloined my Slimline (in a rare beautiful light tan colour) but now she wants a bigger one as she's recently qualified as a doctor so if I can move her to a personal or even an A5 her conversion from the iPhone will be well on its way. I can then get back the Slimline, load it with a 2013 inserts and to do lists so that my wife can start the journey to the light...

I myself have had mine for a few years, well more than a few - it's a Deskfax which isn't as heavy as the A4 but better for me to scribe in than the A5. It maybe out of date but then I'm in the 'best before' stage of my life :-)

David Popely (2013-01-03 07:34:16)

Sound like you're well on your way to the ranks of 'Filofax evangelists' to me!

Web Finds - 29 December 2012 (2012-12-29 00:00) - Steve Morton

So I hope you had a good Christmas and you had a great time.

Here are the latest Filofax blog posts from around the internet:

1. [1]Bigger is (Not Always) Better - Friday, I'm in Love
2. [2]Pros and cons of all my binders - Paper Pens Ink
3. [3]My Purple Pocket Malden - Behind my Purpley Life
4. [4]The Perfect Present - Filofaximile
5. [5]Filofax Wear :(- The Wonderful Life of Alice
6. [6]Filofax arrival; First peek of the Osterley A5 and the Personal Holborn - My Filo World
7. [7]My filofax week #36 - Paper Lovestory
8. [8]Cute Handmade Kokeshi Dolls Address Refills - Filofax Love
9. [9]All Stars guest post by Lime Tree: Filofax Swap #6... - Anita Lim
10. [10]A parade of weekly to-do sheets - The Crazy Suburban Mom

11. [11]Frohe Weihnachten! - Filomaniac
12. [12]2013 New Year with My A5 Stay at Home Planner - I'm a Filo Freak
13. [13]Happy Filodays... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
14. [14]Filofax Compatible? - The Wonderful Life of Alice
15. [15]How it all began... - Chrissie's Universe
16. [16]Current Work Set-Up - LJ's Blog of Stuff
17. [17]Guestpost by Suus: Setup of Emma, the purple Malden We really didn't need another Filofax blog
18. [18]Who showed up next...? - Chrissie's Universe
19. [19]Video Review Lyndhurst - Filofax Fantasies
20. [20]Unwrapping the present! - Filofaximile
21. [21]Personal size... - Chrissie's Universe
22. [22]Filofax personal foldout wine guide - Vintage Crypto
23. [23]What planner for 2013? - Janet Carr
24. [24]Another cute little thing... - Chrissie's Universe
25. [25]Mulberry paper – Filofax to learn from them or vice versa? - Janet Carr
26. [26]Change Of Mind! - I'm a Filo Freak
27. [27]The RIGHT personal size :o) - Chrissie's Universe
28. [28]Winterliches - Filo Manie
29. [29]The Gestalt of Analog - The Crazy Suburban Mom
30. [30]Make your own custom paper notepad - My Life All in One Place
31. [31]The Maldens...Miss Piggy! - Chrissie's Universe
32. [32]Finding your identity - Filofaximile
33. [33]An Impending New Year and the Desk of Shame - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
34. [34]Out With The Old, In With The New - Homemakers Daily
35. [35]Guest Post by Alice: Introducing Frankie's Red Dawn - Miscellany from a Filofax Fanatic
36. [36]Filofax award ceremony - Paper Lovestory
37. [37]The Chosen One - Imysworld
38. [38]Improved task page for the Filofax Pocket - My Life All in One Place
39. [39]"I Love . . . Post-Its & Tabs" - The Storage Studio
40. [40]Decided on 2013 planner – Filofax Malden + Smythson - Janet Carr
41. [41]Starting the Creative Filofax - Jagged Little Thoughts
42. [42]Olivia, The Osterley - Friday, I'm in Love

And here are this weeks Filofax videos

IFRAME: [43]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/s5JeNPOyfsW?rel=0>
IFRAME: [44]http://www.youtube.com/embed/ork_c5LalJo?rel=0
IFRAME: [45]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/vJryLvt9z-0?rel=0>
IFRAME: [46]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/YrWUUREvk3U?rel=0>
IFRAME: [47]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/f9u02ElVk3o?rel=0>
IFRAME: [48]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/K100lAhFEc4?rel=0>
IFRAME: [49]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/wNn-vAavUFQ?rel=0>
IFRAME: [50]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/c48yJYUdG0s?rel=0>
IFRAME: [51]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/vL9X8KlQeKw?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.com/2012/12/bigger-is-not-always-better.html>
2. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/12/pros-and-cons-of-all-my-binders.html>
3. <http://mypurpleylife.blogspot.fr/2012/12/my-purple-pocket-malden.html>
4. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/the-perfect-present.html>
5. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-wear.html>
6. <http://myfiloworld.com/filofax-arrival-first-peek-of-the-osterley-a5-and-the-personal-holborn/>
7. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/12/my-filofax-week-36.html>
8. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/12/23/%e2%9d%a4cute-handmade-kokeshi-dolls-address-refills%e2%9d%a4/>
9. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.fr/2012/12/all-stars-guest-post-by-lime-tree.html>
10. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/12/a-parade-of-weekly-to-do-sheets.html>
11. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/12/frohe-weihnachten.html>
12. <http://filofreak.blogspot.fr/2012/12/2013-new-year-with-my-a5-stay-at-home.html>
13. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/12/happy-filodays.html>
14. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-compatible.html>
15. <http://chrissieswelt.blogspot.fr/2012/12/how-it-all-began.html>
16. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/12/current-work-set-up.html>
17. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/12/guestpost-by-suus-setup-of-emma-purple.html>
18. http://chrissieswelt.blogspot.fr/2012/12/who-showed-up-next_1782.html
19. <http://filofaxfantasies.blogspot.fr/2012/12/video-review-lyndhurst.html>
20. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/unwrapping-present.html>
21. <http://chrissieswelt.blogspot.fr/2012/12/personal-size.html>
22. <http://vintagecrypto.blogspot.fr/2012/12/filofax-personal-foldout-wine-guide.html>
23. <http://thisbugslife.com/2012/12/26/what-planner-for-2013/>
24. <http://chrissieswelt.blogspot.fr/2012/12/another-cute-little-thing.html>
25. <http://thisbugslife.com/2012/12/26/mulberry-paper-filofax-to-learn-from-them-or-vice-versa/>
26. <http://filofreak.blogspot.fr/2012/12/new-filofax-coming.html>
27. <http://chrissieswelt.blogspot.fr/2012/12/the-right-personal-size-o.html>
28. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/12/winterliches.html>
29. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/12/the-gestalt-of-analog.html>
30. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/12/make-your-own-custom-paper-notepad.html>
31. <http://chrissieswelt.blogspot.fr/2012/12/the-maldensmiss-piggy.html>
32. <http://filofaximile.blogspot.fr/2012/12/finding-your-identity.html>
33. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/12/27/an-impending-new-year-and-the-desk-of-shame/>
34. <http://homemakersdaily.com/out-with-the-old-in-with-the-new/>
35. <http://filofanatic.blogspot.fr/2012/12/guest-post-by-alice-introducing.html>
36. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/12/filofax-award-ceremony.html>

37. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/12/the-chosen-one.html>
38. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/12/improved-task-page-for-filofax-pocket.html>
39. <http://thestoragestudio.blogspot.fr/2012/12/i-love-post-its-tabs.html>
40. <http://thisbugslife.com/2012/12/28/decided-on-2013-planner-filofax-malden-smythson/>
41. <http://jaggedlittletoughts.blogspot.fr/2012/12/starting-creative-filofax.html>
42. <http://yayforfridays.blogspot.com/2012/12/olivia-osterley.html>
43. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/s5JeNP0yfsW?rel=0>
44. http://www.youtube.com/embed/ork_c5LalJo?rel=0
45. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/vJryLvt9z-0?rel=0>
46. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/YrWUUREvk3U?rel=0>
47. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/f9u02ElVk3o?rel=0>
48. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/K1001AhFEc4?rel=0>
49. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/wNn-vAavUFQ?rel=0>
50. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/c48yJYUdG0s?rel=0>
51. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/vL9X8K1QeKw?rel=0>

Alison Reeves (2012-12-29 18:43:20)

When I try to view the videos on my iPad it tells me they are unavailable (even though I can view videos on you tube via the website and using as app). Not sure if this is a 'feature' of blogger. Is there anyway you could post a link to the videos online - say underneath each one?

Steve Morton (2012-12-29 19:05:43)

Which iPad do you have Alison? I've had this sort of thing reported before, the main issue is that the working memory on iPads has changed with each model, early models do have problems with viewing embedded videos I've just done a quick test on each video and they all appear to be available. Which ones couldn't you view?
Steve

thisbugslife.com (2012-12-30 01:49:16)

Some fantastic reads this week. It always makes me so inspired at this time of year to see how people are using their planners

Tim (2012-12-30 04:14:44)

I occasionally get a column of black boxes where the videos should be when viewing mobile version on my iPad 2. It's just down to slow loading. Otherwise it works fine on mobile or web version.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-12-30 09:25:41)

Thanks for doing this weekly Steve! No matter how many I find on my own, I always miss some and am so glad to see them posted on philofaxy!

Tracy

Your Average Bloke (2012-12-31 19:31:03)

Hi, does anyone know where I can find a fold-out template for a 2013 Pocket Yearly Planner sheet?

A date for your Filofax - 6 January 2013 (2012-12-30 00:00) - Steve Morton

New York

Sao Paulo

London

Paris

We are going to run another conference round-table voice chat using Skype.

I'm sure we are gradually getting to know each other's voices, but I will make a point of going 'around the table' to get everyone to introduce themselves this time.

So...When, Where, What, Who and How?

When? - **Sunday 6 January** 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. Come and listen if you don't want to chat.

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 6 January 2013**.

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

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

Puddytat purr (2012-12-30 06:27:29)

I don't have a computer, only an iPad - I have Skype on it, will that be ok?

Steve Morton (2012-12-30 06:30:41)

Yes you will be able to join in with Skype on your iPad.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-12-30 14:04:20)

Yayyy!! I'm not working on the 6th!! I've written the skype chat into my DodoPad file insert :)

Austin Linda (2012-12-30 19:27:17)

I'm going to try to download Skype on my iPad for next Sunday.. I'll bring my best Texas accent, y'all!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-12-31 05:32:58)

Are the clocks changing again in the US? What an odd time of the year to do so... Are they going forwards or backwards? (I'm confused as I remember Spring Forwards, Fall Back, but this is half-way between the two...)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-12-31 07:12:19)

Ah... the line has been removed so I guess it was a cut and paste moment???

Phew - I was thinking I had missed some major clock change every year!

:-)

New Filofax diary layout to download - A5 Enhanced TM Week Per View with Journal (2012-12-31 00:00) - Steve Morton

I've been using the TM Enhanced A5 layout most of 2012 and I've found it a very useful layout. Some weeks though I have noticed I'm not using the daily tasks space on a regular basis, so I thought that this valuable page space could be used for journal notes.

So even if you keep a separate journal, you could at least jot down some notes as a reminder for your journal later in the day. Or if you only keep short notes about each day then this space might be enough on each page.

Here it is:



[1]

As you can see it's an evolution of the original layout. We have made them available in '4 line' and '5 line' format.

You can download a 2013 set as either a [2]Word file or a [3]PDF file. (4 line) or a [4]Word file or a [5]PDF file. (5 line) They are created as A4 documents. To use them as A5 inserts, print the document in [6]booklet mode on A4 paper, then use a guillotine to divide each sheet into two and punch the required holes, which the templates are set up with mirrored gutters to accommodate. Or, if you have A5 paper, then either the printer or the PC will scale it to size for you.

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.

If you want to tinker, you can download the [7]Word base file (4 line) or [8]Word base file (5 line) and this [9]Excel data file. (You will need both Word and Excel files) 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.)

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.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-0iJCQViPs20/UM7v-bN6orI/AAAAAAAAOTQ/Ur2F2b_LraE/s1600/tmjournal.png

2. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view_inc_Journal_4line.docx

3. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view_inc_Journal_4line.pdf

4. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view_inc_Journal_5line.docx

5. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view_inc_Journal_5line.pdf
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>
7. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View%20Inc%20Journal%204%20line%20base.docx
8. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View%20In%20Journal%20base.docx
9. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP.xlsxesSourceFilo_WOTP_CC.xlsx

SimonT (2012-12-31 04:47:12)

I like that layout, I might even be tempted to remove the original insert in my penny bridge (Christmas Present from wife) and put this in. The only thing is i have spent the past few days populating the insert with dates og when i see my children from my first marriage. I am sure i can procrastinate on something else.

Happy New Year to all the filo lovers.

Sarahb1 (2012-12-31 11:06:26)

I really like this! Great work!

Can anyone point me to instructions on how to print files like this (A5 inserts on A4 paper) for Pocket size on US Letter paper? I have not been able to find instructions, and may just need the right link if anyone has it available. Thank you!

AudsJ (2012-12-31 14:32:28)

Can someone contact the person who has listed on AdSpot that their dream fil, a personal rosé Finchley, has just appeared on eBay US? I haven't got time! I hope they're able to snatch it up!!

Torrey (2012-12-31 19:38:53)

No hole punch/computer knowledge to print these. Any options for getting some of these inserts?

BlogBook v0.4,
L^AT_EX 2_ε & GNU/Linux.
<http://www.blogbooker.com>

Edited: January 14, 2013