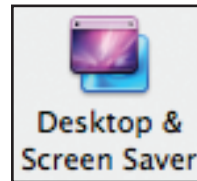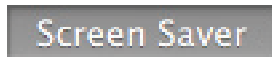# Changing the Screen Saver

A screen saver is the element that appears when the Mac has not been used for a specified period of time. Originally this was designed to avoid screen burn (caused by items being at the same position on the screen for an extended period of time) but now they largely consist of a graphical element. To select your own screen saver:
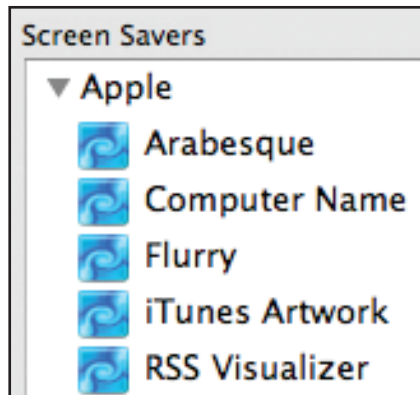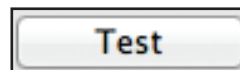
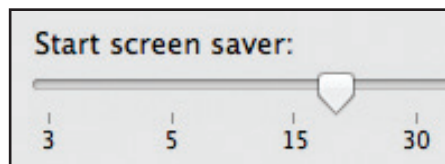**1** Click on this button in the System Preferences folder

Desktop & Screen Saver

2 Click on the Screen Saver tab

Screen Saver

3 Select a location from where you want to select a screen saver

Screen Savers
▼ Apple
  Arabesque
  Computer Name
  Flurry
  iTunes Artwork
  RSS Visualizer

4 Click the Test button to preview the selected screen saver

Test

5 Drag this slider to specify the amount of time the Mac is inactive before the screen saver is activated

Start screen saver:
3   5   15   30

Changing the Resolution

For most computer users the size at which items are displayed on the screen is a crucial issue: if items are too small this can make them hard to read and lead to eye strain; too large and you have to spend a lot of time scrolling around to see everything.
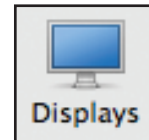
The size of items on the screen is controlled by the screen's resolution, i.e. the number of colored dots displayed in an area of the screen. The higher the resolution the smaller the items on the screen, the lower the resolution the larger the items. To change the screen resolution:

Don't forget

A higher resolution makes items appear sharper on the screen, even though they appear physically smaller.
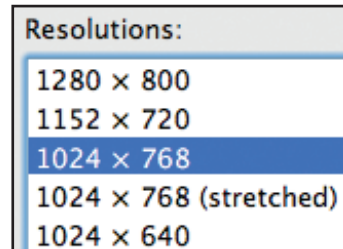
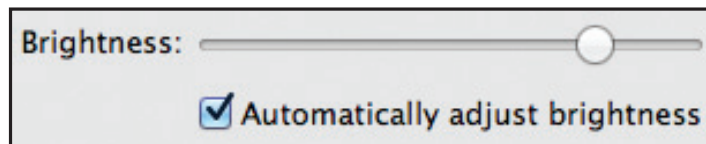**1** Click on this button in the System Preferences folder

Displays

2 Click on the Display tab

Display

3 Select a resolution setting to change the overall screen resolution

Resolutions:
1280 × 800
1152 × 720
1024 × 768
1024 × 768 (stretched)
1024 × 640

4 Drag this slider to change the screen brightness. Check on the box to have this done automatically for the current lighting conditions, via an ambient light sensor (if fitted)

Brightness: ☑ Automatically adjust brightness

5 Click on the Color tab to select options for using different color profiles and also calibrating your monitor

Color