Mission Control

This feature in Lion allows you to see all your open windows which makes life easier if you have several programs open at once and the window you want to see is obscured by another window. In OS X 10.6 (Snow Leopard) you could have multiple desktops by using Spaces, and windows could be exposed by using Exposé.

1. Start Mission Control

2. Click the Mission Control icon in the dock

3. Or Swipe upwards with 3 fingers on the trackpad

In the example shown there are 4 “desktops”, from left to right showing widgets, iTunes, InDesign, and an empty desktop.

In the lower part of the picture you can see 3 open windows, each representing a different program. From left to right you can see the InDesign window (with its icon at the bottom of the window), an Expression Media window and the System Preferences window.

To get out of Mission Control click on any window or the desktop.

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Hot tip

Mission Control lets you keep different activities separated, e.g. you can keep Safari on one desktop, Mail on another, and a third program on yet another distinct desktop. This saves you having loads of windows on top of each other!

Don’t forget

To leave Mission Control click on any window or desktop.