

Welcome to “iChat for Teachers.”

The following Tutorial is formulated for the teacher who is unfamiliar with iChat and has little to no experience chatting. It will first familiarize the reader to the application itself and will then go to emphasize its functionality in the academic environment. It is divided into five lessons, and covers the use of the application, from start to finish, while covering the various ways teachers can use each function to enhance their academic plans:

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This tutorial covers iChat versions 1 through AV 2.1 (currently offered versions). Any versions after 2.1 is not covered.

## About iChat

iChat is Apple’s bundled Instant Messaging (IM) Application. Built with Apple’s now-familiar brush metal moniker, iChat is arguably the easiest, most user-intuitive IM client on both popular platforms.

Packed with features and bundled with each new Mac and each new copy of Mac OS X 10.3 Panther (iChat 1.x was bundled with Mac OS X 10.2 Jaguar), iChat delivers the outstanding user experience for which Apple is famous. With iChat AV, Apple’s latest incarnation of iChat, Apple has included video and audio capabilities that has positioned it as “video conferencing for the rest of us” and as an alternative to costly long-distance calls. Plug-n-play capabilities with almost any Firewire DV camera and Apple’s own iSight, makes these capabilities easy to use and learn.

## iChat and AIM.

Instead building their own proprietary Instant Messaging (IM) protocol, Apple chose to build their client around the most widely used IM service currently in use, AOL Instant Messenger (AIM), < <http://www.aim.com/> >. In doing so, Apple allowed iChat and its end-users to reach the largest installed user base already in place.

Fully compatible with Network Address Translation (NAT), iChat AV is technologically mature and works with any other AIM client application, including the video capabilities in AOL Messenger 5.5 for Windows.

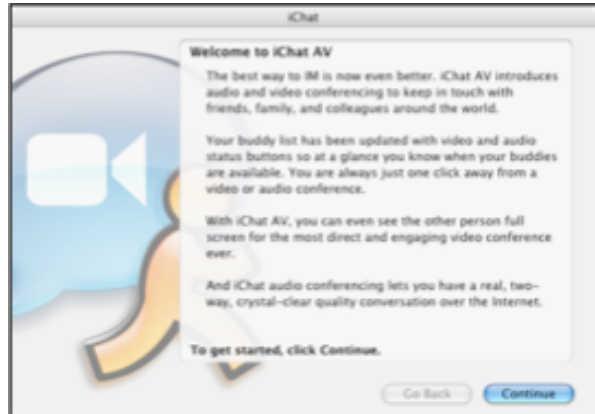
# Lesson 1: Before We Begin Chatting

1

## Getting an Account

When you first start up iChat, you will prompted to enter your First Name, Last Name, Screen Name and Password.

There two main kinds of accounts that people use with iChat are “AOL Instant Messenger (AIM) Accounts” and “.Mac Accounts.” If you don’t already have an account screen name to use, you can click “Get Free .Mac Account.” It will direct you to the proper .Mac webpage for account set-up. You can also received an AIM account from AOL and its webpage, < <http://www.aim.com/> >.



**Note:** Both AIM screen names are free and .Mac accounts acquired by the iChat set-up prompt are free and you do not need to download AOL’s Chat Client to use AIM screen names with iChat.

**Note:** AIM screen names can also used as main AOL accounts and .Mac screen names (accounts) can also used as “AppleIDs.”

For now, though, let’s use the following  
Account Type: AIM

Account Name: \_\_\_\_\_

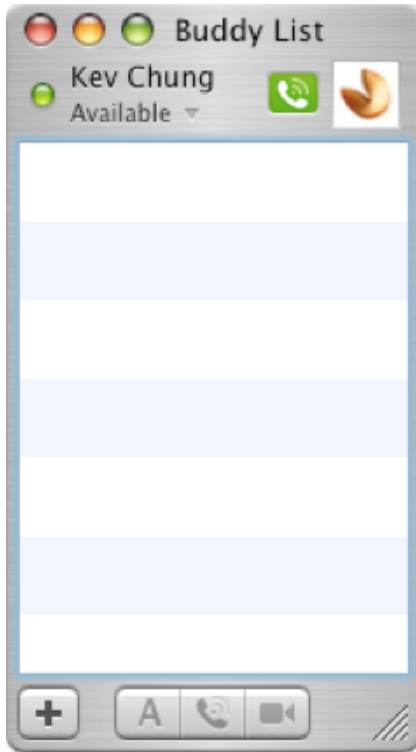
With the password: \_\_\_\_\_

Once you enter your screen name information, skip through the rest of the set-up screens. Until later, do not use Rendezvous.

## The Buddy List

The Buddy List is a list of your colleagues' screen names. It is the central point of reference to see who is available online and who is not. If it's not already open, open the Buddy List Window by choosing its menu item:

Window > Buddy List (⌘1)



On the top of the Buddy List is your Name. This is the name connected to your Address Book entry. In iChat AV, you can click the name to instead show your screen name.

**Note:** iChat is tightly integrated with the Address Book application. You can open the Address Book application (in your Applications folder, by default) to change your name and to add other AIM screen names.

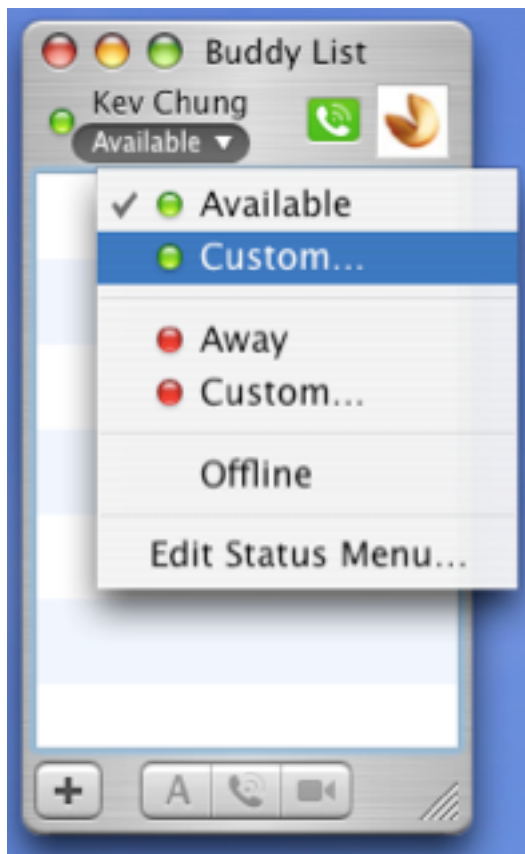
### Available, Idle, Away, and Off-line

Below your name is your “Status,” which could be one of four types: “Available,” “Idle,” “Away,” or “Off-line.” Typically, you change these statuses to identify your availability

Available	Green	Available to talk
Idle	Yellow	An automatically changed status signifying that there has been no Keyboard or Mouse activity in the specified period of time. (Custom Available and Away Messages are overwritten.) The default time period that iChat waits until switching to “Idle” is 600 seconds (10 minutes).
Away	Red	Not available to talk
Off-line		Not logged into the AIM network

To Change your status:

1. Click the Status to change it.
2. Chose among your options: “Available, Custom... (Available), Away, Custom... (Away), Offline.”
3. Selecting “Custom” will prompt you with a text field where you can type your own message. Your “buddies” can read this more descriptive message from their own Buddy Lists. For instance, “Out to Lunch, back at 1pm HST” might be one Away message you could use.



**Note:** If you do not want others to know when you're idling, you can turn it off:

1. Choose iChat > Preferences
2. Select “Privacy”
3. Check “Block others from seeing that I am idle”

Please note that people might be led to believe that you are at your computer when you are not.

**Note:** When the user idles for over 45 minutes, iChat AV automatically switches the status to “Away.” (iChat 1.x does not have this functionality, though.)

**Note:** When the user idles for over 45 minutes, iChat AV automatically switches the status to “Away.” (iChat 1.x does not have this functionality, though.)

**Note:** Although iChat does have the ability to read buddies' Available Messages, most Instant Messaging clients do not have this ability. Do not expect all your buddies to read them, for they might not all use iChat or another client with the ability to read “Available Messages.”

**Note:** There are third-party haxies, such as “iChatStatus,” that query other apps and automatically changes your status. For example, iChatStatus can automatically query what song is playing in iTunes and change your Available Status to reflect the title.

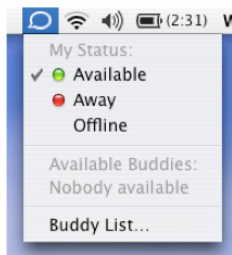
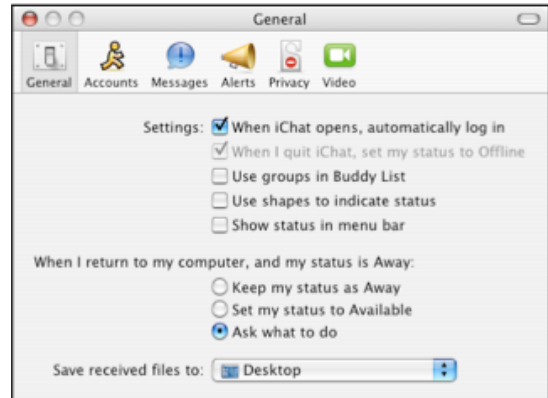
When your computer goes to sleep, or when you switch users using Fast User Switching, iChat will automatically log you off.

Custom Available and Away Messages are remembered in the menu for future reference. You can turn this option off by selecting “Edit Status Menu” and de-selecting “Remember Custom Messages.” In this drop-down sheet, you can also add, edit and delete these custom messages that appear in the menu.

## The iChat Menu Item

You can change your status and log into the AIM service without even launching iChat. To do this

1. Choose iChat > Preferences (⌘,)
2. Select the “General” pane in the tool bar
3. Check “Show status in menu bar” in the Settings Options



This will enable a menu item which will appear from Start Up. From the menu item you can see who's Available, and change your status to Available, Away, or any custom message currently remembered.

## Adding New Buddies Using The “+” Button

The most straightforward way to add Buddies to your Buddy List is to use the “+” button located on the lower left hand corner of the Buddy List Window.

1. Click the “+” button
2. If your buddy already has an Address Book entry, you can select it and enter a screen name for your Buddy if you haven't already entered it
3. If your buddy doesn't yet have an Address Book entry, select “New Person” and enter the information in the resulting sheet.



Try it by entering the following person:

Account Type: AIM  
Account Name; “nw2k0” (sans quotes)  
First Name: Kevin  
Last Name: Chung

