

# A School Intranet Without an OSX Server

This document provides information about setting up a basic school Intranet without the need for an *OSX Server*.

The procedure described in this document uses *iWeb* to create an Intranet site, and *Personal Web Sharing*, on a standard *Mac OSX* client, to provide Intranet services to share this Intranet site on a school network.

Once setup, this Intranet is available to both *Macintosh* and *Windows* computers on the network.

*Personal Web Sharing* in *Mac OSX* is provided by *Apache* software. *Apache* is very stable UNIX software, and is used by many web hosting providers for their web-site hosting services.

For best performance of your Intranet, the computer that you are using to host your intranet should be used exclusively for this purpose.

A standard *iMac*, *eMac*, or *MacMini* will support a medium sized school Intranet quite efficiently. As with all computers, some additional RAM will always improve performance, but this is not essential.

More information about school Intranets is available at:

*[intranet.wazmac.com](http://intranet.wazmac.com)*



## 1. **Create an Intranet User to Host Your Intranet Site**

- 1.1. Log on to the computer as an administrator
- 1.2. Open **System Preferences > Accounts**.
- 1.3. Create a new user, called *Intranet*.

Give the *Intranet* user *administrator* privileges.

- 1.4. Log off as the computer administrator, and log as the newly created *Intranet* user.

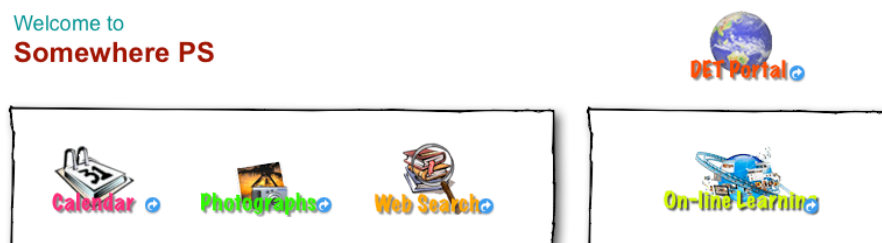
## 2. **Create an Intranet Site**

*You can create an Intranet site from scratch using a web-editing application, or you can get started using a pre-made template. This document assumes that you are starting with a template. The template used here as an example has been created with iWeb, and can be downloaded from:*

*[somewhereps.wazmac.com](http://somewhereps.wazmac.com)*

*Follow the instructions included with the template to copy the iWeb domain file to the Intranet user's Library > Application Support > iWeb folder before continuing.*

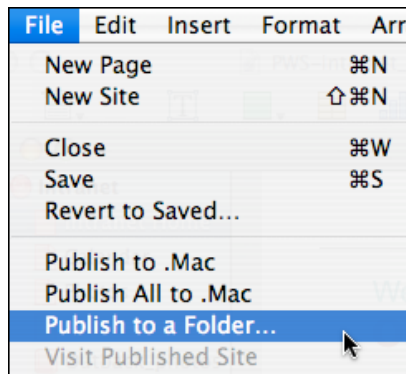
- 2.1. Log on as the *Intranet* user, and open *iWeb*.
- 2.2. The pre-made template that you have downloaded will open as your default site.



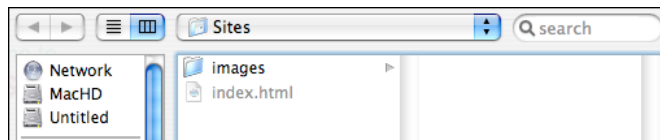
- 2.3. Click in the site name at the top of the Home page to edit the name of the school.

Welcome to  
**Our School PS**

- 2.4. Save your work, and choose **Publish to a Folder** from the **File** menu.

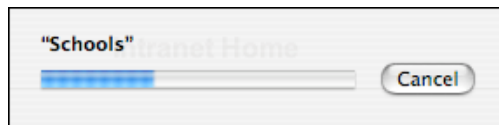


- 2.5. By default, the dialogue box will open at the *Intranet* user's **Sites** folder. (If it doesn't, navigate to this folder).



Click on the **Choose** button.

- 2.6. A progress bar will indicate the progress of the Intranet publishing process.



*Having published the site, with minimal changes, will enable us to continue with the setup process, and to see that the Intranet is functioning correctly.*

*You will no doubt need to return to iWeb to further customise the site for use in your school.*

- 2.7. When the publishing process is complete, quit *iWeb*.

### 3. **Setting up Your Web Service** (the technical stuff!)

- 3.1. Open **System Preferences** and click on the **Network** icon.

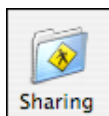


- 3.2. Click on the **Configure** button, and check that your computer has a “manual” IP address.

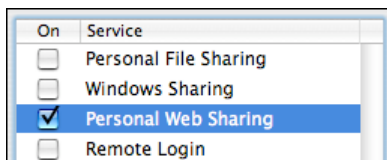
*(If you are not too sure about the numbers to enter here, check with your network administrator for a “free” IP address - or leave it “as-is”, and get it sorted later. If you use DHCP to obtain an IP address for the computer providing your web service, the address of your Internet site may change, making it difficult for people to find your site regularly.)*

If you made any changes, click on the **Apply Now** button.

- 3.3. Return to the **System Preferences** window, and click on the **Sharing** icon.



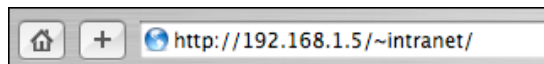
- 3.4. Under the **Services** tab, tick to enable **Personal Web Sharing**.



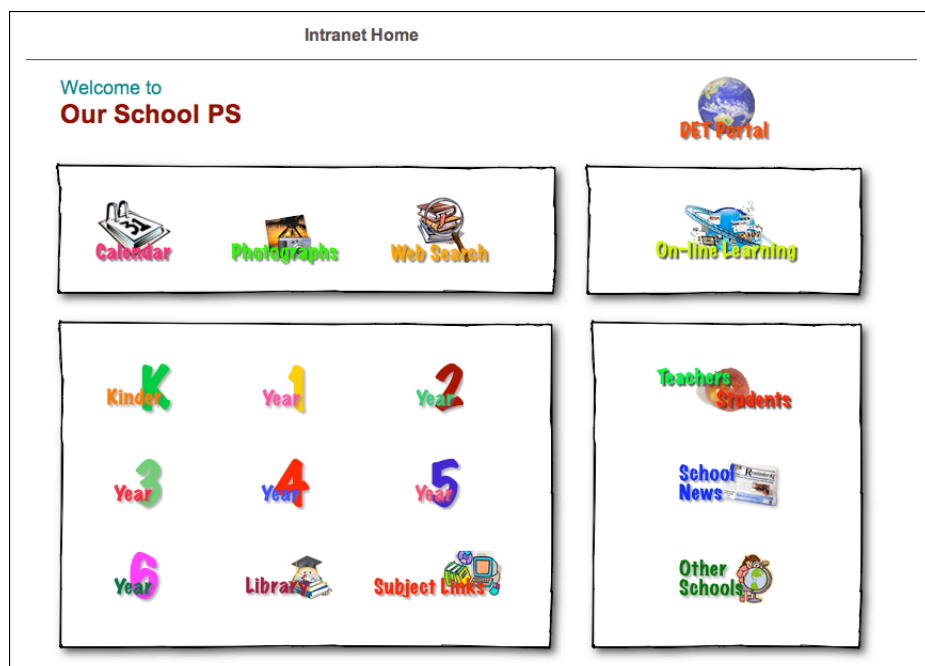
- 3.5. At the bottom of the **Sharing** window you will see a note about the address of your “personal” web address (ie for the *Intranet* user).

View this computer's website at <http://192.168.1.5/> or your personal website at <http://192.168.1.5/~intranet/>

- 3.6. Copy and paste this address into a browser window (ie in *Safari*, *Firefox*, *Camino*, etc).



- 3.7. You will see your web site displayed on the screen.



- 3.8. Congratulations - you are now a web publisher!!!

#### 4. **Accessing your site from other computers on the network**

4.1. Go to another computer on the network.  
(Leave the computer that is “hosting” your web site running!)

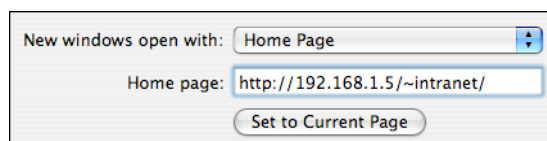
4.2. Enter your Intranet site’s address.

You will see your web site.

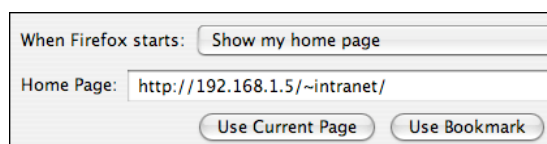
4.3. Try this from both *Macintosh* and *Windows* computers.

4.4. To make this site the “default” site that appears when anyone opens their web browser, set the address to be the browser’s Home page.

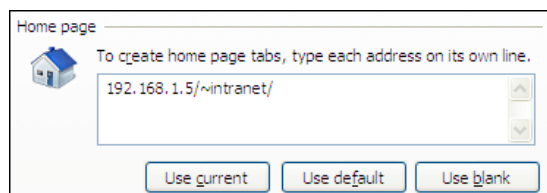
In *Safari*, go to **Preferences** and set the **Home Page** address:



In *Firefox*, go to **Preferences** and set the **Home Page** address:



In *Internet Explorer (Windows)*, go to **Tools, Internet Options**:



4.5. With some forethought, your Intranet can become a “gateway” to relevant Internet sites for staff and students.

## 5. **Other Tips and Tricks**

### 5.1. **Multiple Addresses**

The web address of your site includes your *short username* on the computer (*/~intranet*).

If you have created other users on the computer, they will have their own Intranet addresses, accessible using the same format.

So, thinking strategically, this means that you could have users called *principal*, or *library*, or *maths*, or *canteen*, or *year6*, etc, each with their own web site.

### 5.2. **Links to other Users**

To make a link to those other users (above) from your main Intranet site, include their full address as a link:

eg <http://192.168.1.5/~principal>

Maybe another person (or Class) in the school has setup their site on another computer....

eg <http://192.168.1.10/~year6>

### 5.3. **The Root Address**

The method we have explored here is designed around having individual users, each with their own web site.

But the “computer” can also have it’s own site, known as the “root” site.

In our example, this would be <http://192.168.1.5>.

The location to publish your site so that it can be seen at this address is:

*Macintosh HD > Library > Web Server > Documents*

*(You need administrator access to the computer to publish to this location).*