

KICKING the TIRES

by Frank Petrie, MaMUGs, Technology Specialist



PRODUCT: MACSKATE

COMPANY: MARATHON COMPUTER

<WWW.MARATHONCOMPUTER.COM/

MACSKATE.HTML>

REQUIREMENTS: ANY POWER MAC G4 OR G3

BLUE & WHITE "HANDLED" CASE

PRICE: (US) \$59.00

TEST RIG: POWERMAC G4/DP 1.42GHZ/1 GB

RAM

REVIEW DATE: 09 JUNE 2004



I'm reclaiming my life. And my Dining Room. I'm tired of always looking over there and seeing piles of wires and unpaid bills. I guess it's a sign of old age. But how do I hide my CPU and still have it be easily accessible?

"MacSkate adds mobility. And convenience. Roll out your Skate-equipped Mac to get to the rear ports. Turn it a little bit to get into the side door. Pull it closer to get discs in and out. Wheee! The four full-swiveling casters let it slip around corners as agile and sure-footed as a cat. Your Mac can go where you want it to, always ready... and its feet never have to touch the floor."

Finally, some actual tires to kick!

THE GOOD

I'm the son of a retired industrial engineer. So, I rolled up my sleeves, opened the box and got to work. Remove the four hex screws holding the bottom handles in place. Place the skate where the handles were and line up the screw holes. Insert the four Phillips headed screws provided and tighten. Whew! Time for a beer and a lie down.

The casters work fine on hard services (please resist the urge to use your mobile tower as an expensive And it worked well on my short/medium piled rug.

Delivery was by UPS and took only two–three days.

THE BAD

Online help that has to be downloaded separately as a .pdf file. For this price, I believe that it should automatically be part of the download. No biggie, but all the same ...

THE UGLY

Nada.

THE CLOSE

Anyone who has to diagram anything (and I do mean anything, be it a room, a project, a story line, what–have–you) can most definitely benefit from this program. It's every bit as malleable as your imagination.

I just used it for one simple project that I needed done. You should really download the demo and apply it to your life and see what it can do for you.

Now if only it would actually move the furniture ...

RATING: 9 out of 10

PULL QUOTE: "It's every bit as malleable as your imagination."

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The Mid-Atlantic Macintosh User Groups Team (MaMUGs)
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Providing camaraderie, cooperative programs, events, training and knowledge sharing for Apple/Macintosh User Groups **free of charge**.

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