On the disc

The latest software for your PDA or smartphone

WINDOWS MOBILE (PPC)

FREE

Guitar Fretboard Addict

It never ceases to amaze us just how many and varied are the things you can do with your PDA. It can play a part in literally almost every aspect of your life. Guitar Fretboard Addict represents yet another use: music tuition.
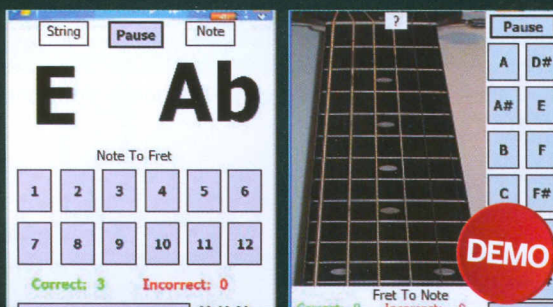
While a handheld may not obviously lend itself to this cause, the program works by ingeniously disguising the task as a fun memory game which helps you quickly learn your way around your guitar's fretboard.

There are two versions of the program on our CD this

DEMO

The latest demo of Guitar Fretboard Addict is also included on our cover disc this month, with bags of new features

month. The first is a fully-functional copy of its original incarnation. This uses a flash-card system to test you on your knowledge and memory of where your fingers should be placed on the guitar both by note and position. The second is a demo of the brand new version, 1.4, which also has the same flash-card system as well as a new and even more powerful graphical device that allows you to get to grips with the fretboard itself. In addition, acoustic guitar sounds have been introduced, meaning you're no longer merely memorising notes but can become familiar with their sounds as well.
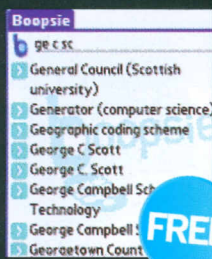
With significantly increased functionality, Guitar Fretboard Addict 1.4 represents a good upgrade over the original version, and is ideal for anyone learning to play, from absolute beginners to those who want to be able to keep their hand in during spare minutes of the day. It can be purchased for a mere $14.99 from www.guitaraddict.net and includes in the package both the Pocket PC and desktop PC versions.

For more advanced players, Guitar Addict also offers applications for learning chords or even the bass guitar, all based along similar lines. Demos of these products can be downloaded from the website.
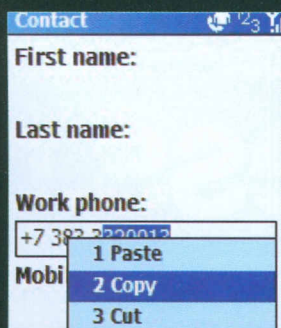
PALM OS

FREE

Boopsie

Fully equipped with a very Web 2.0 name, Boopsie offers something radically new in the field of mobile web searching. It's based around two concepts. The first is heavy use of categories, enabling you to home in on relevant search results as quickly as possible. The second is what the company describes as 'multi-term prefix incremental search'. In short, it's a more dynamic search that displays results in real-time with each letter you type. The net benefit of this is that you will often find you need to type fewer characters to get to your results. Which on a PDA is always a good thing.

WINDOWS MOBILE (SP)

VITO CopyPaste

FREE

Yet another example of a small utility that fills in the gaps of the OS it runs on. In this case, a copy and paste function. It may seem strange that a multi-tasking operating system such as Windows Mobile for Smartphone shouldn't give you such a basic feature as being able to copy text easily between applications, but it doesn't. Until now. VITO CopyPaste is a tiny freeware app that performs but a single, simple task. It uses virtually no space and precious little resources, so should become an essential program for just about every Smartphone user.

There's no installer with CopyPaste. In order to run it just extract the zip file from our CD and copy the contents to your phone. Locate the file using File Explorer and click on it to run.

WINDOWS MOBILE (SP)

Simple Tunes

DEMO

The standalone MP3 player has had a massive impact on all music-playing devices. And the key area of influence isn't so much the performance or even functionality (there is in truth precious little between any devices these days), but the interface.

The interface for the music player music must look good, but it must also be easy to use, enabling the user to change tracks and find other functions with as little fuss as possible. This is the exact reason why the iPod took off

in the way that it did, and the exact reason why so many of its rivals have taken to emulating it.

Simple Tunes is certainly inspired by the iPod, although the non-touch screen scroll wheel is a little confusing. It's also a very good media player, and well worth a run out.