

newsworthy trends

Get Wired In A Week: Making The Most Of Your Internet Time

by Regina Lewis

AOL Online Advisor

and National TV Contributor

(NAPSA)—Your Internet experience is what you make of it and there's never been a more important time to be "connected." There are now more than 138 million "wired" Americans and that number continues to skyrocket.



Regina Lewis

Here are a few highlights from the latest edition of the *Publishers Weekly*

best-selling trade paperback *Wired in a Week* (Warner Books, \$9.95), which is filled with clear, step-by-step, click-by-click instructions for using one of the easiest and the world's most popular Internet Service Provider—America Online (AOL)—to improve your life in just 10 minutes a day:

Get Started: It all starts with a few basics, including hooking up your computer, learning how to use a mouse, installing the AOL software, selecting an access number, registering your account and picking a screen name and password. Your screen name will be your e-mail address, the one you give out to family and friends, so consider choosing a name that is easy to remember. It can combine letters, numbers and blank spaces. Screen names are a bit like vanity license plates, so be creative.

Chapter One/Get in Touch: We all have good intentions of keeping in touch with friends and family—and now it's easier than ever. There are three basic ways to communicate online: e-mail, instant messaging and chat. Once you start communicating via e-mail, you'll never go back—there are more than 300 million e-mails exchanged daily on America Online.

Chapter Two/Get the Info:

Can't get to the newsstand? When you're online, the newsstand comes to you. Take a lesson in how to navigate the AOL service using the Welcome Screen, Keywords, search features and other tools. Quickly find the day's news headlines, check your horoscope, get stock quotes and more. You can also research just about anything from the comfort of your home—find a restaurant in your local area, get movie times (and purchase tickets) or find a phone number in the online yellow pages.

Chapter Three/Get Around:

Once you've mastered the basics, you can really start to explore the online world. Take a guided tour around AOL's rich content areas or "channels," where you can do everything from checking the latest sports scores to planning your next vacation.

Chapter Four/Get a Life:

Sometimes we all need to unwind and just have a little fun. Whatever you like to do, chances are you'll find something enjoyable when you sign on. Learn how to share family photos using AOL's You've Got Pictures service, participate in online communities (message boards and chat rooms) and search for the love of your life through online personals on Love@AOL.

Chapter Five/Get the Goods:

If you love to shop, you'll soon come to agree the Internet is the best invention since the mall. Once you get a taste of how easy it is to shop online—and discover all the great bargains you can find, you'll be back again and again. Shopping online with a reputable Internet Service Provider like AOL or CompuServe provides consumers convenience, quality and security. If you're making a major purchase like a house or a car—or if you're deciding which car seat to

buy for your new baby—you can save a lot of time and make informed choices by starting your search online.

Chapter Six/Get Going: Does every day seem like a balancing act? This is when the Internet can help simplify your life and make daily tasks like managing your calendar or banking easier. You can also use the Web to find a new job, manage your finances—even pursue your education.

Chapter Seven/Get a (Family) Life: There are more kids online than ever before and they're coming online at younger and younger ages. One of the best things about AOL is sharing it with others, especially children, as a way to have fun together and as a tool to help them learn. America Online also gives parents tools like AOL's Parental Controls to help ensure a safe and enjoyable online experience for their children, so your children get the content they want, and you get the peace of mind you need.

At the end of each chapter, you'll find some of the best kept secrets of AOL—including tips for saving time and money, staying safe and having fun online. There are also success stories and testimonials throughout the book from AOL members who have made the Internet a big part of their everyday lives.

A special bonus section on Emergency Technology Tips will teach you how to become "Internet-ready" in case of emergency. One of the most important parts of responding to emergencies is being prepared, and e-mail and the Internet can be a critical resource.

Wired in a Week is available wherever books are sold or order online at AOL Keyword: *Wired in a Week* or www.wiredinaweek.com.