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BlackBerry® Pearl™
FOR
DUMMIES®

by Robert Kao & Marie-Claude Kao

Dante Sarigumba & Yosma Sarigumba



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—Yosma Sarigumba

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—Rob and Marie-Claude & Dante and Yosma

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Introduction

Hi there, and welcome to *BlackBerry Pearl For Dummies*. Having purchased a BlackBerry Pearl, this is a great book to have around if you want to discover new features or you need something to slap open and use as a quick reference. If you don't have a BlackBerry Pearl yet (but plan to get one) and have some basic questions (such as "What is a BlackBerry Pearl?" or "How can a Pearl help me be more productive?"), you can benefit by reading this book cover to cover. Regardless of your current BlackBerry User Status — BUS, for short — we're here to help you get the most out of your BlackBerry.

We can tell you, right off the bat, that a BlackBerry Pearl is not a fruit you find at the supermarket nor a jewel. Rather, it is an always-connected handheld device that has e-mail capabilities with a built-in Internet browser and the latest in convergent smart phones with advanced media features and a camera. With your BlackBerry, you are in the privileged position of always being able to receive e-mail, browse the Web, and have fun listening to music and taking pictures.

On top of that, a BlackBerry has all the features you'd expect from a personal organizer, including a calendar, to-do lists, and memos. Oh, and did we mention that a BlackBerry also has a mobile phone built in? Talk about multitasking! Imagine being stuck on a commuter train: With your BlackBerry by your side, you can compose e-mail while conducting a conference call — all from the comfort of your seat.

In this book, we show you all the basics but then go the extra mile by highlighting some of the lesser-known (but still handy) features of the Pearl. Your Pearl can work hard for you when you need it as well as play hard when you want it to.

About This Book

BlackBerry Pearl For Dummies is written to be a comprehensive user guide as well as a quick user reference. This book is designed so that you certainly can read it cover to cover if you want, but

you don't need to. Feel free to jump around while you explore the different functionalities of your BlackBerry. We cover basic and advanced topics, but we stick to those that we consider the most practical and frequently used. Also, we provide ample screen images so that you can relate to the topics even when you're not holding your BlackBerry Pearl. Screen images used throughout the book are based on the T-Mobile Zen theme and may vary if you are not using this theme.

Who Are You?

In writing this book, we tried to be considerate of your needs, but because we've never met you, our image of you is as follows. If you find that some of these images are true about you, this might just be the book for you:

- ✔ You have a BlackBerry Pearl, and you want to find out how to get the most from it. Or you don't have a BlackBerry Pearl yet, and you're wondering what one could do for you.
- ✔ You want to take advantage of the many fun features of your BlackBerry Pearl, including taking pictures, listening to music, and watching video clips.
- ✔ You're looking for a book that doesn't assume you know all the jargon and tech terms used in the PDA industry. (PDA stands for personal digital assistant, by the way.) Take that, you jargon, you!
- ✔ You want a reference that shows you, step by step, how to do useful and cool things with a BlackBerry without bogging you down with unnecessary background or theory.
- ✔ You're tired of hauling your ten-pound laptop with you on trips, and you're wondering how to turn your BlackBerry into a miniature traveling office.
- ✔ You no longer want to be tied to your desktop system for the critical activities in your life, such as sending and receiving e-mail, checking your calendar for appointments, and surfing the Web.

What's in This Book

BlackBerry Pearl For Dummies consists of five parts, and each part consists of chapters related to that part's theme.

Part I: Meet and Greet Your BlackBerry Pearl

Part I starts with the basics of your BlackBerry Pearl. You know: What it is, what you can do with it, and what the parts are. We also show you how to personalize and express yourself through your BlackBerry. This part wraps up with must-knows about security and where to go for help when you get into trouble with your BlackBerry.

Part II: Getting Organized with Your Pearl

Part II deals with the fact that your BlackBerry is also a full-fledged PDA. We show you how to get your BlackBerry to keep your contacts in its Address Book as well as how to manage your appointments and meetings in Calendar. We also show you how to take some notes and safely keep your passwords. As you'll see, most BlackBerry applications interconnect, working hard for you.

Part III: Getting Multimedia and Online with Your Pearl

Part III shows you how you can use the true strengths of the BlackBerry — its always-connected e-mail and its Web surfing functionality — but it doesn't stop there. We also point out how you can use other forms of messages on the BlackBerry that you might not have known about, such as PIN-to-PIN messages, BlackBerry Messenger, and Instant Messaging from the popular IM networks. We feature the ability of your BlackBerry Pearl to capture cool pictures and, to top it off, satisfy your senses by playing media files such as music and video clips.

Part IV: Working with Desktop Manager

In Part IV, we detail the BlackBerry Desktop Manager and show you some of the hoops you can put it through with your Pearl, including making backups. And we didn't forget to cover important stuff such as data-syncing your appointments and contacts with desktop applications such as Outlook.