Uncover the gems in your Pearl and change the way you work, communicate, and play

Want to dive deep into your BlackBerry Pearl and unlock a treasure trove of features and functionality? This book shows you how, so you can improve your productivity, get organized, and increase your cool factor. From Web browsing and app selection to social networking and setting appointments, you’ll find everything you need to maximize your Pearl 3G.

- Get started with the basics — discover what you can do, what the parts are, and how you can personalize your BlackBerry Pearl
- Organize your life — from keeping your contacts and managing your appointments to storing passwords and setting your alarm at night
- Start surfing and stay connected — learn how to surf the Web, send texts, read your e-mail, and take advantage of BlackBerry Messenger
- Rock out — play music, watch videos, and take pictures; then get the scoop on how to record videos and sample ring tones
- Enter the App World — enhance your lifestyle by installing a wide variety of applications
- Sync it all together — utilize BlackBerry Desktop Software and BlackBerry Desktop Manager to sync your appointments and contacts with desktop applications such as Outlook

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Robert Kao has developed a number of applications for BlackBerry. Dante Sarigumba is a software developer, working extensively on finance-related BlackBerry applications. They are coauthors of BlackBerry For Dummies, BlackBerry Storm For Dummies, and BlackBerry Curve For Dummies.
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About the Authors

Robert Kao is one well-rounded professional. His ability to translate his technical knowledge and communicate with users of all types led him to cowrite BlackBerry For Dummies and BlackBerry Pearl For Dummies. He started out as a BlackBerry developer for various financial firms in New York City, that truly global city. Kao is currently the founder of a mobile software start-up. A graduate of Columbia University, with a Computer Engineering degree, he currently lives in South Brunswick, New Jersey.

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Dedication

I would like to thank my father (MHK), my mother (SYT), and the rest of the Kao family for everything they’ve done for me. I wouldn’t be here without their kindness and understanding. I would also like to thank my lovely wife, Marie-Claude, and little Jade for all their support. In addition, thanks to Manon Lalancette and the rest of the Gamelin family for all your cheers!

—Robert Kao

As always, this book is for Yosma, Dean, and Drew: my greatest treasures. Thank you for your thoughts, understanding, and support.

—Dante Sarigumba

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—Rob and Dante
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We’re proud of this book; please send us your comments at http://dummies.custhelp.com. For other comments, please contact our Customer Care Department within the U.S. at 877-762-2974, outside the U.S. at 317-572-3993, or fax 317-572-4002.

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Hi there, and welcome to *BlackBerry Pearl 3G For Dummies*. This is a great book to have around if you want to discover new features or need something to slap open and use as a quick reference. If you don’t have a BlackBerry Pearl yet 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.

Right off the bat, we can tell you that a BlackBerry Pearl is not a fruit you find at the supermarket nor a jewel. Rather, it is a feature-packed always-connected smartphone that has e-mail capabilities with a built-in Internet browser and 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 3G For Dummies* is written as a comprehensive user guide as well as a quick user reference. This book is designed so that you 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 areas that we consider the most practical and frequently used. If you use or want to use a certain function of your BlackBerry, it’s likely covered here.
Foolish Assumptions

In writing this book, we tried to be considerate of your needs. But because we’ve never met you, we had to create an image of 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 can 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 smartphone industry.
✓ 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.
✓ You like to have some fun, play games, and be entertained from a device but don’t want to carry an extra game gadget in your bag.

How This Book Is Organized

BlackBerry Pearl 3G For Dummies consists of five parts, and each part consists of chapters related to that part’s theme.

Part 1: Getting Started

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 how to customize your BlackBerry Pearl to suit your needs.
Part II: Getting Organized

Part II deals with the fact that your BlackBerry is a feature-packed phone and also a full-fledged organizer. We show you how to get your BlackBerry to keep your contacts in its Contacts app as well as how to manage your appointments and meetings in Calendar. You also find out how to use the Clock app to set an alarm, set a timer, and set your device to bedside mode. You explore how to use the Password Keeper app to centralize your passwords. Knowing that a big use of Pearl is for calling, in this part you’ll find all the ways of using the Phone app, from simple dialing to multitasking while in a call. And finally, you see that most BlackBerry apps interconnect, working hard for you.

Part III: Getting Online

Part III shows you how you what made BlackBerry what it is today: always-connected e-mail. We also get into another strength of the BlackBerry — Web surfing functionality — but we don’t stop there. We point out how you can use other forms of messages, specifically text messaging, instant messaging, PIN-to-PIN messages, and BlackBerry Messenger messages.

Part IV: Getting the Fun Stuff

You find the fun stuff in Part IV. Navigate using the BlackBerry GPS. Rock your world and use your BlackBerry Pearl to play music, watch videos, and take pictures. You also get the scoop on how to record videos and sample ring tones. Plus you get timesaving shortcuts when using the Media apps.

Part V: Getting Hooked with BlackBerry Desktop

In Part V, we detail BlackBerry Desktop Software and BlackBerry Desktop Manager and show you some of the hoops you can put the programs through with your Pearl, including making backups and installing BlackBerry apps from your desktop to your Pearl. Readers with a PC (sorry Mac users) also find out how to port data from older devices — BlackBerry or not — to their new Pearl. And we didn’t forget to cover important stuff such as data syncing your appointments and contacts with desktop apps such as Outlook.
Part VI: The Part of Tens

All *For Dummies* books include The Part of Tens at the end, and this book is no different. In Part VI, we show you where to get cool BlackBerry accessories, how to know the popular games, download useful apps, and find Web sites suited for your BlackBerry Pearl.

Icons Used in This Book

This book rarely delves into the geeky, technical details, but when it does, this icon warns you. Read on if you want to get under the hood a little, or just skip ahead if you aren’t interested in the gory details.

Here’s where you can find not-so-obvious tricks that can make you a BlackBerry power user in no time. Pay special attention to the paragraphs with this icon to get the most out of your BlackBerry.

Look out! This icon tells you how to avoid trouble before it starts. A paragraph with this icon explains consequences you may not like on certain actions you do on your BlackBerry.

This icon highlights an important point that you don’t want to forget because it just may come up again. We’d never be so cruel as to spring a pop quiz on you, but paying attention to these details can definitely help you.

Where to Go from Here

If you want to find out more about the book, visit [www.dummies.com/cheatsheet/blackberrypearl3g](http://www.dummies.com/cheatsheet/blackberrypearl3g). Now you can dive in! Give Chapter 1 a quick look to get an idea of where this book takes you, and then feel free to head straight to your chapter of choice.
Part I

Getting Started

The 5th Wave

By Rich Tennant

“...This model comes with a particularly useful function—a simulated static button for breaking out of long-winded conversations.”
In this part . . .

The road to a happy and collaborative relationship with your BlackBerry Pearl starts here. Chapter 1 covers all the nuts and bolts — how things work, the Pearl’s look and feel, and connectivity. Chapter 2 discusses how you can navigate with ease to the world of BlackBerry Pearl, offering timesaving shortcuts. Finally, Chapter 3 shows you how to customize Pearl and make it your own.
Chapter 1

Your BlackBerry Is Not an Edible Fruit

In This Chapter
▶ Checking out your BlackBerry behind the scenes
▶ Seeing what your BlackBerry can do
▶ Managing memory

With all the talk about how the BlackBerry can change the way you work, communicate, and are entertained, you probably have an idea of what the device is — although it’s okay if you don’t (as long as you’re not trying to eat it). Before we jump in to how the BlackBerry can change your lifestyle, we’re curious — what convinced you to buy this particular handheld mobile device? Was it BlackBerry Messenger, or always-connected e-mail, or the multimedia player that replaces your iPod or iPhone, or a good app you saw on a friend’s BlackBerry? For whatever reason you bought your BlackBerry, congratulations: You made an intelligent choice.

The same smarts that made you buy your BlackBerry Pearl are clearly at it again. This time, your native intelligence led you to pick up this book, perhaps because your intuition is telling you that there’s more to the BlackBerry than meets the eye. Your hunch is right. For example, your BlackBerry is a whiz at making phone calls and checking e-mails, but it’s also a social networking do-it-all smartphone that can update your Facebook account and let you instant chat with your business partner in another continent. And, of course, you can surf the Web and download apps at an amazing speed.

But that’s not all. With the BlackBerry, help is always at your fingertips instead of sitting on some desk at home or at the office. You can use your BlackBerry to

✓ Check the reviews of that restaurant on the corner
✓ Find out — right now — what’s showing at your local movie theater, or the weather forecast for tonight, or the best place to shop the sales
✓ Retrieve news headlines and check stock quotes
Part I: Getting Started

- Get directions to that cozy bed-and-breakfast
- Chat or view photos online
- Network with your old classmates

You can also improve your productivity, become better organized, and increase your cool factor. Watch out, world! Person bearing a BlackBerry Pearl coming through!

How the Pearl Works

For those of you who always ask, “How do they do that?” you don’t have to go far; this little section is just for you.

The role of the network service provider

Along with wondering how your BlackBerry actually works, you may also be wondering why you didn’t get your BlackBerry from RIM instead of a network service provider such as Cingular or T-Mobile. Why did you need to go through a middleman? After all, RIM makes BlackBerry.

Here’s a quick-and-dirty answer. RIM needs a delivery system — a communication medium, as it were — for its technology to work. Not in a position to come up with such a delivery system all by its lonesome, RIM partnered (and built alliances across the globe) with the usual network service providers — the big cell phone companies.

These middle-providers support the wireless network for your BlackBerry so that you have signals to connect to the BlackBerry Internet Service — which means you can get all those wonderful e-mails (and waste so much valuable time surfing the Internet). See Figure 1-1 for an overview of this process.

Network service providers don’t build alliances for nothing, right? In return, RIM gave them the right to brand their names on the BlackBerry they offer for sale. For example, a T-Mobile Pearl may look different from a similar model you would get from Vodafone. Which leads to another question: Do BlackBerry functionalities differ from phone model to phone model? Quick answer: In the core BlackBerry apps (such as Tasks and Address Book), you find no major differences. However, some BlackBerry features, such as instant messaging, might or might not be supported by the network service provider. (See Chapter 8 for details on instant messaging.)