How to Initiate the iPad 2

By Ken Shade
NVCC-Woodbridge
Ensure you charge your iPad for at least 12 hours before completing this step below.

**Note**: Be sure to install iTunes 10 on your computer before continuing.

After unboxing my iPad and powering it on for the first time, I had to connect it to iTunes before actually being able to use the new toy. Did I say toy? I mean the magical and revolutionary device. That’s disappointing because people want to use their iPad right now! The process of setting up the iPad in iTunes is very straightforward, similar to setting up an iPhone, but with a few quirks and one possible, rather funny bug.

As soon as you plug the now fully charged iPad into your Mac or PC, iTunes 10.0 will open and you’ll see a welcome message.
Click continue and there’s that license. Does anyone actually read these things? If you say no, does it self-destruct?
Next up is where you tell the iPad about your iTunes account. If you are new to the world of iDevices, you also have the option to set up a new account here. You will need to do this. Don’t worry; they just want your credit card just in case you want to buy something.
Apple doesn’t miss a chance to up-sell its MobileMe service. Do not buy anything unless you want too but you will have to provide a credit card number. Do not give your password to this account to your children: you will be sorry.
OK, finally we are in the final stretch here. On the next screen, you are able to choose whether to set up your iPad from scratch or restore from a previous backup. The dialog allowed me to select the backup from my iPhone, which would presumably be a big time-saver if you have an extensive collection of apps (and their settings) you want to transfer over to the iPad. I saw a cute bug here: the message says “An iPad has previously been synced with this computer” — unless your name is Steve Jobs, it is very unlikely you have synced an iPad with your Mac before today! And if you did, you probably are violating an NDA by telling us this fact. **NOTE:** Set up Mobile ME here.
Now it’s time to name your new baby. This year’s hot names include the always-popular “Michael” and “Clohe.” Sharing this iPad is going to be an issue I know.
Ah, finally, the main screen. It is very similar to the iPhone management screen in iTunes. You can see at a glance how much disk space is on your iPad, and what version of software it is running. Give the iPad a name.
The “Info” tab is where you will see your detail sync settings for things like contacts, email and address book entries. You can also set up MobileMe from here if you didn’t earlier.
The next set of tabs are familiar to anyone who has used another iDevice. The apps tab allows you to sync and arrange apps. Unfortunately, when I told it to sync apps, it selected every app I owned, well over 100 of them, making me manually un-select the numerous apps I didn’t want to install. The other tabs, like music, movies, iTunesU, podcasts and photos are exactly what you’d expect. If you sync photos, the software will have to optimize them for the iPad, which can take quite a while if you have a large photo library. In retrospect I would recommend avoiding this step for initial setup. Lastly, we have a brand new tab: Books. This is where you will manage books you create in Claibre or purchase with the iBooks or iTunes app.
Apps TAB: Set up new or old Apps Sync.
Music TAB: Set Music Sync. I have found that music is best reproduced using iTunes with Apple Lossless Encoder. I have had excellent results with my BOSE speaker system. In one word SYMPHONIC. Carful your iPad memory will fill up fast if you have a lot of music.
Movies TAB: Set Movie Sync. Carful your iPad memory will fill up fast if you have a lot of music.