

Claris Works 4.0 and 5.0 & AppleWorks Informally Compared

Claris Works 4.0 is a long-time classroom favorite. Now there's also ClarisWorks 5.0 and AppleWorks 5.0, which are functionally equivalent upgrades of ClarisWorks 4.0. The ClarisWorks name will gradually be changed over to AppleWorks. Version 5.0 has similarities, differences, improvements & losses.





First off, you'll notice Version 5.0 has a new look, with an **enhanced button bar** which you can customize in a variety of ways, by choosing which buttons are where, how many rows of buttons appear, if the bar is horizontal or vertical, fixed or floating, and so on. Version 5.0 also gives you more built-in shortcuts, and easy access to your choice of several specialized button bars.

My favorite new feature is the ability to add **bookmarks** and **hyperlinks** to text, graphics, and even cells in spreadsheets. You can use these instead of custom macro buttons to move from page to page, or from one document to another. Links can even open another application or a web page. Creative use of links should make navigation easier for kids. Also, links give you and your students the opportunity to organize reports and projects in dynamic ways. For examples of how to use hyperlinks, many of Version 5.0's own stationery items illustrate great examples of how to use bookmarks and hyperlinks.

There are many, many more new features in Version 5.0, including **multimedia fields** in the database (you can add pictures or quicktime movies to your databases!). Unfortunately, the database still is weak on importing and exporting data!

Of course, Version 5.0 takes up more memory than CW 4.0. It also has more assistants, more stationery, etc. It often comes bundled with Claris Home Page Lite.

Using Curriculum Tips & Templates from CW 4.0 with CW 5.0:

- The "Talking Lips" icon  has been replaced by a more mundane icon: 
- **Stationery** and **templates** should work fine in most cases, but once changed will, by default, be saved as 5.0 documents, which CW 4.0 can't open -- be careful if you or your students will be using more than one version of ClarisWorks!
- How you organize your desktop, folders & documents occurs outside ClarisWorks, so no changes there!
- Warning: Customized **macro buttons** (customized shortcut buttons) from CW 4.0 don't seem to work when documents created in CW 4.0 are opened in Version 5.0! This is especially problematic for any database macros made in CW 4.0.
- Version 5.0 seems to have dropped the option to make the button bar show big icons! :-)
- Also, the method for making customized **macro or shortcut buttons** in Version 5.0 is different and involves an extra step:
 - First, go to File, choose Macros, then Record Macro, and follow steps for CW 4.0.
 - Then, in a separate step, click  on the upper left of the button bar, and choose "New Button..." to choose the macro and create the icon.
 - Finally, click  again, and choose "Edit Button Bars..." to add it to the button bar of your choice -- most likely, the "Default" button bar.