

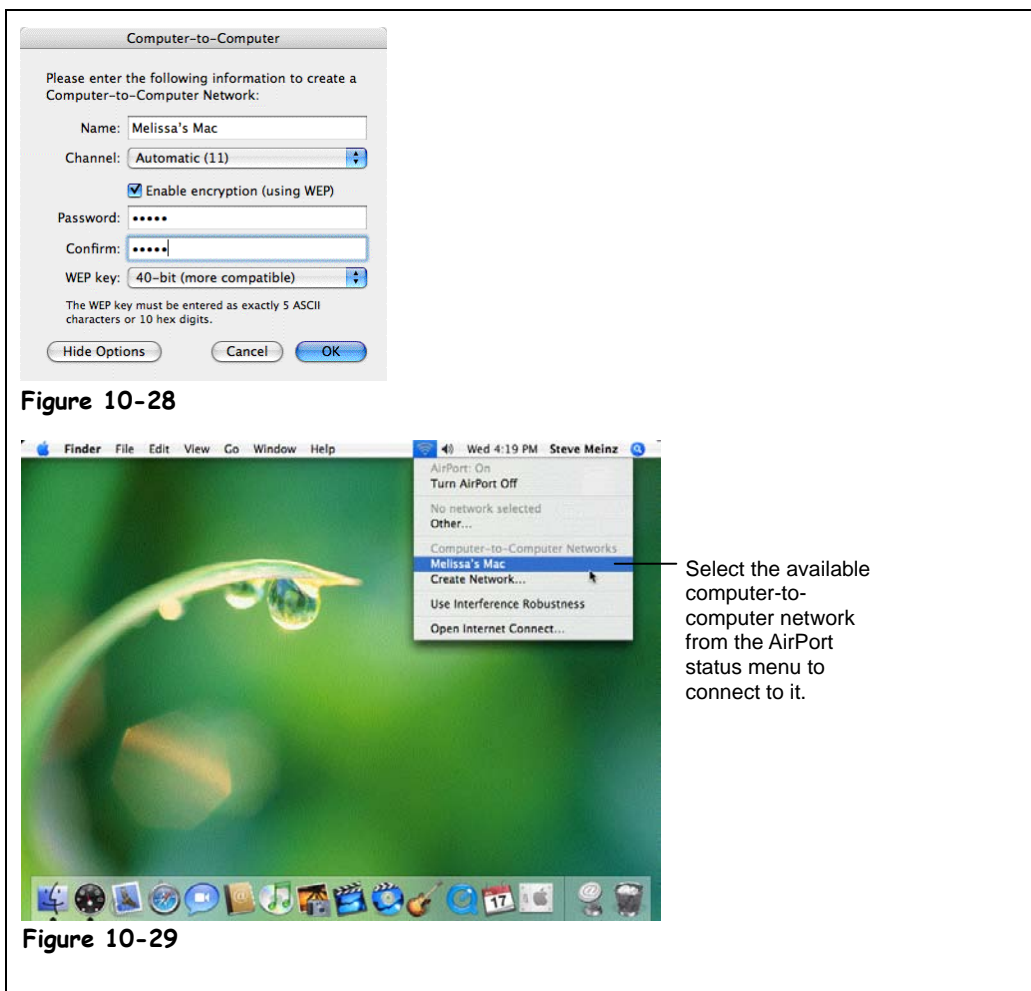
## Lesson 10-12: Communicating Between Computers Wirelessly

**Figure 10-28**

The Computer-to-Computer dialog.

**Figure 10-29**

Connecting to another computer via a computer-to-computer wireless network.



This feature may not work if any of the computers joining the computer-to-computer network are connected to the Internet using an Ethernet connection.

If you have two or more computers with AirPort, you can allow them to communicate together wirelessly by creating a computer-to-computer wireless network. This lets you share files and play multiplayer games between the computers that are part of the wireless network.

First, you must create an AirPort network that other users can join. You can do this from any computer that has an AirPort network card installed. For this lesson, let's try working with AirPort through the AirPort status menu on the menu bar.

1. Click the **AirPort status menu** on the menu bar. Select **Create Network** from the menu.

The Computer-to-Computer dialog appears, as shown in Figure 10-28. Enter a name for the network that others who want to connect to the network will recognize.

2. Enter a name for the network in the **Name** text box.

If you click OK at this point, the network is created and other users can connect to your computer.

To increase security on the network, you can add a password to the network.

3. To add a password to the network, click the **Show Options button** and enter the password you want to use.

The dialog expands to show controls for password-protecting the network. You can choose the type of encryption you want to use from the WEP key pop-up menu

**NOTE:** If you choose to add a password to the network, make sure it is the specified number of characters according to the type of WEP key you use. For example, the 40-bit WEP key requires 5 ASCII characters or 10 hex digits. If you create a network with a password but it doesn't seem to be working correctly, try creating a network without a password.

4. Once the network settings you want to use are entered, click **OK**.

The network is created! Notice that the AirPort status icon in the menu bar has changed to show that it is connected the computer-to-computer network you just created.

Now any other computer that wants to join the network can do so by selecting the network from the AirPort status menu, as shown in Figure 10-29.

Once at least two computer are connected to the network, you can proceed with anything you might to on a network, such as file-sharing or iChat. If you want to connect to another computer, you may have to do so using the Connect to Server command in the Go menu: the available computers probably won't appear in the Network browser.



**Computer-to-Computer network status icon**

#### Quick Reference

To Create a Wireless Computer-to-Computer Network:

1. Click the **AirPort status menu** and select **Create Network** from the menu.
2. Enter a name for the network in the **Name** text box.
3. To add a password to the network, click the **Show Options button** and enter the password you want to use.
4. Once the network settings you want to use are entered, click **OK**.