

# Spotlife™ 2 User Guide

Chronos Inc.

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# Chapter 1—Welcome

Spotlife is the fastest, easiest way to view the important happenings in your life. Spotlife puts your calendar directly on your desktop so it's always available (hereafter called the *Desktop Calendar*). Choose from Agenda, Day, Week, and Month view. If another window covers part of the Desktop Calendar, simply press a keyboard shortcut to activate Center Stage which will zoom the Desktop Calendar forward above all other windows and jumbo-size it. It's fast, easy, and convenient. For a list of new features in this version please visit our web site at http://www.chronosnet.com.

# **System Requirements**

- ◆ Mac OS X v10.10 or later
- ◆ 50MB of available disk space

# **Installing Spotlife** — Chronos Version

If you downloaded Spotlife from the Chronos website, you should see an Spotlife disk image on your desktop.

- 1) Open the Spotlife disk image on your desktop.
- 2) Drag and drop the Spotlife application icon into your Applications folder or other folder of your choice.

# **Installing Spotlife** — Mac App Store Version

If you purchased Spotlife from the Mac App Store then OS X will automatically install the software on your computer in your Applications folder. If you deleted the application and wish to reinstall it from the Mac App Store, then the below steps describe how.

- 1) Open the App Store application.
- 2) Click Purchases at the top of the App Store window. You'll see a list of all the applications you've purchased on the Mac App Store.
- 3) Locate Spotlife in the list of purchased applications and click Install.

# **Uninstalling Spotlife**

The below steps describe how to uninstall all of the components related to it.

- 1) Delete the Spotlife application. The default location for applications is in the Applications folder, so check there first unless you installed it elsewhere.
- 2) Delete the "com.chronos.Spotlife" folder. This folder is where Spotlife stores any data and preferences it needs. It is located at the following path where ~ denotes your HOME folder: ~/Library/Containers/com.chronos.Spotlife.

# Migrating from Spotlife 1.x

Spotlife 1.x had an Accounts preference pane where enter your credentials (login name, password, etc.) for each calendar account (On my Mac, iCloud, Google Calendar, etc.) that you want to use. The Accounts preference pane no longer exists in Spotlife 2.x and later. It was removed for two primary reasons. First, Apple now has a central location in System Preferences > Internet Accounts for setting up your calendar accounts. Apple's own applications like Calendar and Reminders use the accounts that have been set up in this central location. Spotlife now automatically uses the calendar accounts set up in this central location as well. Second, getting rid of the Accounts preference pane eliminates the need for you to enter your credentials multiple times in multiple places. Account setup is now automatic with Spotlife which makes your life easier.

If you've been using Spotlife 1.x, you can simply launch Spotlife 2.x and later and start using the software. Spotlife will automatically detect the accounts you have setup in the Internet Accounts system preferences. Any accounts you previously set up in version 1.x are ignored. You can edit the calendar accounts you have set up in OS X by opening System Preferences and selecting the Internet Accounts preference pane. Spotlife will automatically detect any calendar account changes you make.

# **Learning to Use Spotlife**

To learn how to use Spotlife, consult these resources:

#### **User Guide**

This guide describes Spotlife's features and shows how to use the program.

#### **Onscreen Help**

Help tags are available for many of the items in Spotlife. To see the help tags, let the mouse pointer rest over an item for a couple of seconds.

#### **Technical Support**

Chronos provides various support options for Spotlife. See http://www.chronosnet.com/Support/index.html for technical support options.

#### **Web Resources**

Go to http://www.chronosnet.com/Products/index.html to get the latest software and updates.

# Chapter 2—Getting Started

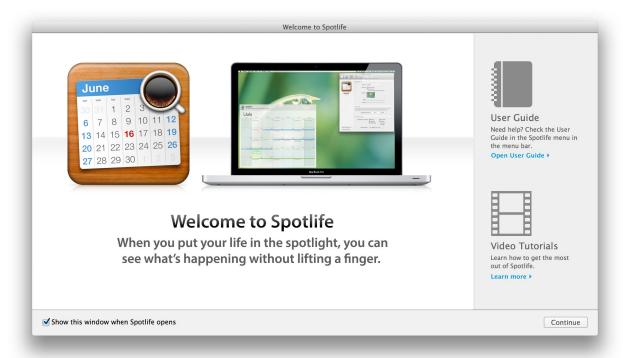
Spotlife is a little bit unique in that it is a faceless background application. This means it doesn't appear in the Mac OS X Dock and it doesn't have a regular menu bar. Instead it runs in the background and is always available when you need it.

# **Launching Spotlife**

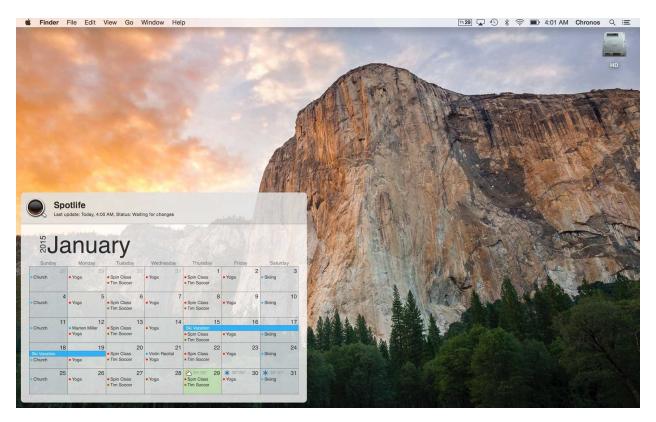
When you launch Spotlife, it runs in the background which means you can just launch it once and then leave it running indefinitely.

#### To launch Spotlife:

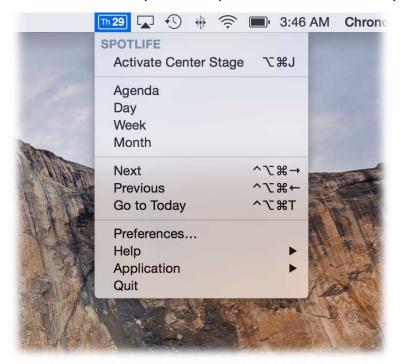
 Double-click the Spotlife application. The application will launch and a Welcome window will appear. The Welcome window contains a video you can watch to quickly get acquainted with the software. The Welcome window will also walk you through a few setup and informational steps.



- 2) Click Close to close the Welcome window and start using the software. The Desktop Calendar will appear in the bottom left-hand corner of your desktop. You may have to move a few windows around to see it.
  - IMPORTANT NOTE: The Desktop Calendar is for viewing only which means you can't click on it or select any of the items on it. Unfortunately, it's not impossible for Chronos to add editing capabilities to the Desktop Calendar for two reasons. First, editing capabilities would interfere with the usability of of the Finder (like selecting and dragging around files). Second, the design of Mac OS X actually makes it impossible for us to add this capability.

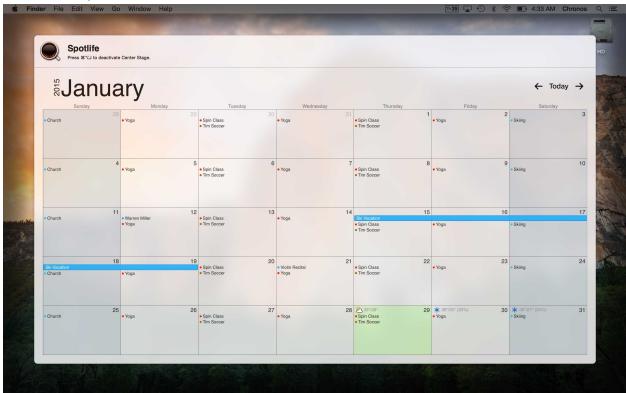


3) At the top of your screen in the menu bar, you'll see a Spotlife icon which opens a menu. The Spotlife menu always remains in the menu bar no matter which application you're currently working in. It provides convenient access to key functionality of the software. It also shows you the current date.



4) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Activate Center Stage. The Desktop Calendar will zoom to the front and hover above all other windows on your desktop. It will also be jumbo-sized so you can see as

much detail as possible.



 Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Deactivate Center Stage. The Desktop Calendar will return to its original position on the desktop.

# **Quitting Spotlife**

Because Spotlife is a background application, you can't quit it like you would most applications. Instead, you use the Spotlife menu in the menu bar.

#### To quit Spotlife:

1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Quit Spotlife.

# **Opening Spotlife Automatically**

You can change, at any time, whether or not you want Spotlife to open automatically whenever you log into your Mac OS X account (this happens after you restart your computer).

#### To change whether Spotlife automatically opens when you log into your account:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the General tab.
- 3) Click Open Automatically and follow the onscreen instructions.

# **Mac OS X Login Items**

Your Mac OS X user account has a list of Login Items. The items in this list are automatically opened whenever you log into your account (this happens after you restart your computer). If you want the Desktop Calendar to appear whenever you log into your account, you'll want to make sure Spotlife is in this list of Login Items.

You can add Spotlife to the list of Login Items via Spotlife as described above or you can add it manually via Mac OS X System Preferences.

#### To view/edit your user account's Login Items:

- 1) Open System Preferences.
- 2) Click the Accounts preference pane.
- 3) Select your account.
- 4) Click the Login Items tab.

# Chapter 3—The Desktop Calendar

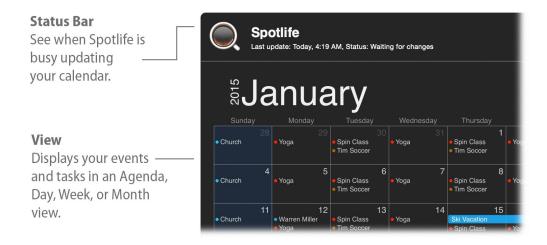
Spotlife helps you focus on the important events and tasks in your life by putting your calendar directly on your desktop so it's easily accessible. Spotlife lets you customize many different aspects of the Desktop Calendar. First, you can choose which screen you want it to appear on if you have multiple screens attached to your computer. Second, you can choose the size and placement of it on your desktop. Third, you can choose from Agenda, Day, Week, and Month views. Fourth, the appearance (colors, fonts, etc.) of the Desktop Calendar can be customized so it matches the wallpaper you've chosen for your desktop and so it suits your style.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Desktop Calendar is for viewing only which means you can't click on it or select any of the items on it. Unfortunately, it's not possible for Chronos to add editing capabilities to the Desktop Calendar for two reasons. First, editing capabilities would interfere with the usability of of the Finder (like selecting and dragging around files). Second, the design of Mac OS X actually makes it impossible for us to add this capability.

### **Overview**

The Desktop Calendar appears directly on your desktop as if it were part of the desktop. It has the following parts:

- ♦ **Status Bar**. This region lets you know when Spotlife is busy getting updated information. For example, it will let you know when Spotlife is getting updated events and tasks from iCloud.
- ♦ View. This region displays the Agenda, Day, Week, or Month view containing all of your events and tasks.



# Choosing the Agenda, Day, Week, or Month View

You can choose to display an Agenda, Day, Week or Month view. Choose the type of view that you will most often want to see.

#### To choose the type of view to display:

1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Agenda, Day, Week, or Month. The Desktop Calendar will instantly display the selected view.

- 1) OR click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the General tab.
- 3) Click View By to choose the view you wish to see. The Desktop Calendar will instantly display the selected view.

## **Navigating to a Different Date**

By default the Desktop Calendar shows the current day, week, or month depending upon the selected view. The occasion may arise when you need to view a different day, week, or month. You can change the day, week, or month being displayed via the Spotlife menu or one of the corresponding keyboard shortcuts.

#### To navigate to a different day, week, or month using the Spotlife Menu:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Next, Previous, or Go to Today.
- 2) OR press the keyboard shortcut corresponding to Next, Previous, or Go to Today.

#### To change keyboard shortcut assigned to Next, Previous, or Go to Today:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Shortcuts tab.
- 3) Click in the Next, Previous, or Go to Today keyboard shortcut field in the Date Navigation section.
- 4) Enter a new keyboard shortcut or click Clear to delete the existing keyboard shortcut.
- 5) Click Re-enable Keyboard Shortcuts to activate the new keyboard shortcut.

NOTE: The Agenda view always starts at the current date which can't be changed.

# **Changing the Screen Where the Desktop Calendar Appears**

You can place the Desktop Calendar on any screen you have attached to your computer. The screen you choose becomes the default screen and Spotlife will remember the default even when it's not attached.



#### To change the default screen where the Desktop Calendar appears:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the General tab.
- 3) Click the Screen pop-up menu and select from the list of screens currently connected to your computer. The Desktop Calendar will move to your selected screen.

If the default screen ever becomes unavailable, the Desktop Calendar will appear on your main screen (the one with the menu bar).

# **Changing the Location of the Desktop Calendar**

You can place the Desktop Calendar in any one of nine different standard locations. Choose a location that best fits your working style such that the Desktop Calendar is covered by other windows as infrequently as possible.



#### To change the location of the Desktop Calendar:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the General tab.
- 3) Select the location where you want the Desktop Calendar to appear. The Desktop Calendar will instantly move to that location.

# Changing the Size of the Desktop Calendar

You can change the size of the Desktop Calendar from small to screen-filling. Choose a size that works best for your work style.

#### To change the size of the Desktop Calendar:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the General tab.
- 3) Adjust the width slider to your desired width. The Desktop Calendar will instantly resize as you move the slider.
- 4) Adjust the height slider to your desired height. The Desktop Calendar will instantly resize as you move the slider.

NOTE: When the Desktop Calendar is showing the Agenda view, it will automatically adjusts its height based on the number of events and tasks currently on your schedule. It does this so you don't miss anything. This means, in the case of the Agenda view, that it is not possible to manually adjust the height of the Desktop Calendar.

# **Setting Up Calendar Accounts**

Spotlife automatically shows you the events and tasks in the calendar accounts you already have setup on your system. That is, Spotlife uses the same calendar account that Apple's Calendars and Reminders applications are using. Since Spotlife uses the same calendar accounts that OS X supports, Spotlife can display your calendars from the following types of accounts:

- ♦ On My Mac. These calendars are stored locally on your computer.
- ♦ iCloud. These calendars are stored in your iCloud account.
- **♦ Exchange**. These calendars are stored in your Microsoft Exchange account.
- ◆ Google Calendar. These calendars are stored in your Google Calendars account.
- **♦ Yahoo! Calendar.** These calendars are stored in your Yahoo! Calendars account.

- ◆ CalDAV. Theses calendars are stored in your account on a CalDAV server on your local network or over the internet. TECHNICAL EXPLANATION: CalDAV is an open standard calendar access protocol that allows access to calendars that are in the popular iCalendar format over the WebDAV extensions to the HTTP protocol. This industry standard is now used by most major services including the above account types like iCloud, Google, etc. It is also built into Apple's Mac OS X Server product if you run your own CalDAV server.
- ★ fruux Calendar. These calendars are stored on fruux Calendars account and are set up by creating a CalDAV account.

You can create an account for each source where you have calendars. You can create multiple accounts and display calendars from multiple accounts at once.

#### To edit your calendar accounts in System Preferences:

- 1) Open System Preferences.
- 2) Click the Internet Accounts preference pane.
- 3) Follow Apple's instructions for creating and deleting accounts. In most cases when creating an account, you'll need to enter requested information like your login id, password, etc. If you create a CalDAV account, you'll also need to enter the server address information.

#### To edit your calendar accounts in Calendar:

- 1) Launch Calendar.
- 2) Choose Calendar > Accounts or Calendar > Add Account and follow the onscreen steps.

#### To edit your calendar accounts in Reminders:

- 1) Launch Reminders.
- 2) Choose Reminders > Accounts or Reminders > Add Account and follow the onscreen steps.

Spotlife will automatically display all of the calendars that you have setup in OS X. The events and tasks from these calendars will appear on the Desktop Calendar. If you don't want to display all of the calendars in a particular account, you can selectively choose the calendars to display in the Calendars preference pane (see next section below).

## **Choosing Calendars**

You may have lots of calendars in all of the different accounts that you've set up, but you may not want events and tasks from all of these calendars to appear on the Desktop Calendar. Spotlife lets you selectively choose which calendars you want to display on the Desktop Calendar.

#### To choose which calendars appear on the Desktop Calendar:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Calendars tab.
- 3) Click the expansion triangle next to each account to expand or collapse all of the calendars in that account.
- 4) Click the check box next to a calendar to select or deselect it. The events and tasks from that calendar will instantly appear or disappear from the Desktop Calendar accordingly.

A NOTE ABOUT CALENDAR COLORS: If you wish to change the color assigned to a calendar, you need to do this from a calendar application like Calendar or from the website of the calendar service. For example, you can change the

color of an iCloud calendar or an On My Mac calendar using Calendar. You can change the color of a Google calendar by using your web browser to visit the Google calendar website and then logging into your account.

# **Choosing Whether to Show Events & Tasks**

Spotlife lets you choose whether you want events, tasks, or both to appear on the Desktop Calendar.

#### To choose whether events and tasks appear on the Desktop Calendar:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the General tab.
- 3) Select Show events if you want events to appear on the Desktop Calendar.
- 4) Select Show tasks if you want tasks to appear on the Desktop Calendar.

# **Customizing Tasks**

Spotlife lets you control whether or not completed and cancelled tasks appear on the Desktop Calendar. This option is useful when you want to reduce clutter by not showing tasks that no longer need your attention. Spotlife also lets you control how tasks appear on the Desktop Calendar. There are two options:

- ♦ **Multi-day Banners**. Choose this option when you want tasks to appear as banners that stretch from their start date to their due/completion date. This option is useful when you want to see how far overdue task are.
- ♦ **Single Day**. Choose this option when you want tasks to appear just on their due date (or today's date when the task doesn't have a due date).

#### To customize when and how tasks appear on the Desktop Calendar:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the General tab.
- 3) Select the Tasks tab.
- 4) Edit the task-related settings. These settings are only relevant if you've chosen to show tasks.

### Weather

You can optionally choose to have the current weather forecast displayed in select calendar views. This is a convenient way to see what the weather will be like when planning activities.



#### To turn ON/OFF the display of weather:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Weather tab
- 3) Select Show weather.

4) Click Units to choose the unit of measure you prefer to see the weather displayed in.

#### To choose the location of the weather forecast to use:

By default, Spotlife will display the weather based on your current location as provided by OS X. You can, however, manually choose a location as well.

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Weather tab.
- 3) Click Change Location and follow the onscreen steps.

#### To change the appearance of the weather icons:

Spotlife provides two different colors (multi-color and monochrome) of weather icons so the weather forecast is visible and looks good in the Desktop Calendar.

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Weather tab.
- 3) Choose the icon color you prefer. If you choose the monochrome option, you can click the corresponding color well to choose the specific color you want to use.

# **Customizing the Appearance of the Desktop Calendar**

You can customize the appearance of the Desktop Calendar to match the wallpaper you've chosen for your desktop or to suit your personal style. Spotlife lets you customize many aspects of the Desktop Calendar like its color, whether the Status Bar is visible or not, and the Status Bar colors.

#### To change the background color of the Desktop Calendar:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Appearance tab.
- 3) Click the Main background color well.

#### To change the background blur of the Desktop Calendar:

You can choose whether you want the background of the Desktop Calendar to blur the desktop behind it. This effect also makes the background translucent. The overall result of a blurred translucent background is a Desktop Calendar that is easy to read on a different desktop wallpapers. You can choose from a light and dark option.

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Appearance tab.
- 3) Choose a Background blur option.

NOTE: Since OS X controls the light and dark blurred effect, the background color setting of the Desktop Calendar doesn't apply when a blurred effect is selected and is thus disabled.

#### To choose whether the Status Bar is present or not:

1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.

- 2) Select the Appearance tab.
- 3) Select or deselect Show Status Bar.

#### To change the background color and text color of the Status Bar:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Appearance tab.
- 3) Click the Status Bar background color well.
- 4) Click the Status Bar text color well.

# Customizing the Appearance of the Agenda, Day, Week, & Month Views

Once you've customized the Desktop Calendar, you can further customize the Agenda, Day, Week, & Month views that appear in the Desktop Calendar. For example, Spotlife lets you customize fonts, grid styles, colors, and more.

#### To customize the Agenda view:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Agenda tab.
- 3) Customize the various settings as desired. The changes you make will immediately be shown provided the Agenda view is the currently selected view.

#### To customize the Day or Week view:

The Day and Week views share many of the same visual attributes. Their settings thus appear together so you only have to customize them once.

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Day & Week tab.
- 3) Customize the various settings as desired. The changes you make will immediately be shown provided the Day view or Week view is the currently selected view.

#### To customize the Month view:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Month tab.
- 3) Customize the various settings as desired. The changes you make will immediately be shown provided the Month view is the currently selected view.

# **Instant Customization Using Built-In Themes**

Spotlife gives you very fine control over the appearance of the Desktop Calendar and its accompanying Agenda, Day, Week, and Month views. This level of fine control means that there are many settings that might need to be changed to completely customize the look of the Desktop Calendar. For your convenience, Spotlife includes several built-in themes you can choose from to instantly change the look of the Desktop Calendar. When

you choose to customize the Desktop Calendar using a built-in theme, all of the appearance-related settings will instantly change to represent that theme.

#### To instantly customize the Desktop Calendar using a pre-defined theme:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Appearance tab.
- 3) Click Customize with Theme and choose a theme. All of the appearance-related settings (fonts, colors, etc.) will change to reflect those in the theme and the Desktop Calendar will instantly reflect these changes.

NOTE: Spotlife does not have the ability to let you create and save your own themes, so only use this feature if you are not concerned about losing customizations you've made.

# Chapter 4—Center Stage

It's inevitable that the Desktop Calendar will become fully or partially covered at some point in your day. Or the occasion may arise when you'd like to see your schedule in more detail. The ALL-NEW Center Stage feature makes this not only possible, but so fast and easy you'll wonder why it hasn't been done before. Simply press a keyboard shortcut and the Desktop Calendar will zoom forward above other windows and will be jumbo-sized to show maximum detail — now you'll truly be able to put your life in the spotlight.

# **Using Center Stage**

Center Stage is designed to be instantly available the moment you need it. In order to help make this possible, Center Stage was ergonomically designed to be invoked using the keyboard if your hands are on the keyboard or using the mouse if your hand is on the mouse.

#### To activate Center Stage and bring the Desktop Calendar to the front of the screen:

- 1) Press the assigned keyboard shortcut. The default keyboard shortcut is: Command-Option-J. To assign a different keyboard shortcut, see Specifying The Center Stage Keyboard Shortcut.
- 2) OR click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Activate Center Stage.

#### To deactivate Center Stage and send the Desktop Calendar back to its original position:

- 1) Press the assigned keyboard shortcut a second time.
- 2) OR click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Deactivate Center Stage.

#### To navigate to a different day, week, or month:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Next, Previous, or Go to Today.
- OR press the keyboard shortcut corresponding to Next, Previous, or Go to Today.
- 3) OR click Next, Previous, or Go to Today in the Desktop Calendar.

# Specifying The Center Stage Keyboard Shortcut

You can change the keyboard shortcut assigned to Center Stage. This keyboard shortcut provides a quick way to activate Center Stage without having to move your hands from the keyboard.

#### To change the Center Stage keyboard shortcut:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Shortcuts tab.
- 3) Click in the Center Stage keyboard shortcut field in the Center Stage section.
- 4) Enter a new keyboard shortcut or click Clear to delete the existing keyboard shortcut.
- 5) Click Re-enable Keyboard Shortcuts to activate the new keyboard shortcut.

# **Choosing To Jumbo-Size the Desktop Calendar**

You can choose whether or not you want the Desktop Calendar to be jumbo-sized when Center Stage is activated. If you choose not to jumbo-size the Desktop Calendar, it will simply remain its current size when it zooms forward above other windows.

#### To choose whether the Desktop Calendar is jumbo-sized when Center Stage is activated:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the Shortcuts tab.
- 3) Select or deselect Jumbo-Size the Desktop Calendar in the Center Stage section.

NOTE: When the Desktop Calendar is showing the Agenda view, it will never be jumbo-sized when Center Stage is activated. The Agenda view automatically adjusts its height based on the number of events and tasks currently on your schedule so it's not necessary for it to be jumbo-sized.

# Chapter 5—Miscellaneous

Spotlife has a couple of other features to make the software easier to use and to help you reset everything and start from scratch if you want to.

# **Spotlife in The Menu Bar**

The Spotlife menu always appears in the menu bar at the top of your screen. This menu provides convenient access to key functionality of the software. It also shows you the current date.



#### To conveniently view your keyboard shortcuts from the Spotlife menu:

- 1) Keyboard shortcuts appear next to menu items that have a keyboard shortcut associated with them.
- 2) Any keyboard shortcuts for which there isn't a corresponding menu item are shown in the KEYBOARD SHORT-CUTS section of the menu in case you forget one of them. PLEASE NOTE: there currently aren't any keyboard shortcuts that show up in this section so the section isn't displayed.

### **Reset to Defaults**

Spotlife makes it easy to reset all of the settings that govern it to their original factory defaults except for accounts you've created which will remain intact.

WARNING: Resetting to defaults means you'll lose a) any appearance customizations you made to the Desktop Calendar and the Agenda, Day, Week, and Month views; and b) any other setting changes you've made. Any accounts that you've created will remain intact for your convenience. You'll need to manually delete accounts if there are accounts you no longer want Spotlife to access.

#### To reset to defaults:

- 1) Click the Spotlife icon in the menu bar and choose Preferences.
- 2) Select the General tab.
- 3) Click Reset to Defaults.