Browsing the Internet with Safari

When Apple introduced the iPhone in 2007, Steve Jobs said it was like having the Web in your pocket. The Safari web browser on the iPhone was revolutionary. It allowed you to literally touch the Web like never before. Take the iPhone Safari experience and magnify it by ten, and you’ll have some idea of what browsing the Web is like on the iPad. Web pages on the iPad’s screen are large and show you more than ever before in clarity you’ve never imagined. It’s like the iPad turns the Web into an interactive magazine in the palm of your hands.

In this chapter, you’ll discover how to get the most from Safari with all its awesome powers. You’ll learn how to navigate web pages, manage bookmarks, and use both portrait and landscape orientations. You’ll also discover some great finger-tap shortcuts, bookmarking skills, and the handy Web Clip feature. Read on for all this and more.

Getting Started with Safari

Tap the Safari application icon to launch the program. By default, Apple places it in the bottom left of the Dock. It’s marked with a white compass on a blue background (see Figure 6-1). Once tapped, the Safari application opens a new window.

Figure 6-1. Launch Safari from the Dock on your iPad Home screen.
Safari’s Browser Window

Many elements on the Safari window may look familiar, especially to anyone experienced in using web browsers or Safari on iPhone or iPod touch. Familiar elements include the address bar, the reload button, and the history navigation arrows. Figure 6-2 shows a typical Safari browser window.

Figure 6-2. The Safari window displays many familiar features, including the address bar and the back, forward, and bookmarks buttons.

Let’s look closer at the top of a Safari page. Atop every Safari window you’ll see the navigation bar (see Figure 6-3). The navigation bar contains common buttons and tools found on any modern web browser. From left to right, they are as follows:

Figure 6-3. The Safari navigation bar

- **The back button**: This takes you back one page in your browsing history.

- **The forward button**: If you’ve gone back one page, the forward button will move you one page forward in your history.