Your Contact List

Your BlackBerry excels as a contact manager. You will turn to your Contacts app, perhaps more than any other app on the device. From a contact, you can email, send a text message, call, fax or even “poke” someone if you have the Facebook app installed.

One rule of thumb you will hear us say often is to add anything and everything to your contacts. Whenever someone calls, add them to your contacts. Add contacts from emails and messages—you will always go back to them.

The Heart of Your BlackBerry

Your address book is really the heart of your BlackBerry. Once you have your names and addresses in it, you can instantly call, email, send text (SMS) messages, PIN-to-PIN BlackBerry Messages, BlackBerry Messenger (BBM) or even pictures or Multimedia Messages (MMS). Since your BlackBerry came with a camera, you may even add pictures to anyone in your address book so that when they call, their pictures show up as Picture Caller ID.

Getting Contacts from Your SIM Card onto Your Contact List

If you are using your SIM (Subscriber Identity Module) card from another phone in your BlackBerry and have stored names and phone numbers on that SIM card, it’s easy to transfer your contacts into your Contact list.
1. Click on your Contacts icon.

2. Press the Menu key and scroll to SIM Phone book and click.

3. Press the Menu key and scroll to Copy To All Contacts.

4. Then you will see a screen that says “Contacts Imported” or “No Contacts are Saved on your SIM Card.”

After this process is complete you should see all the name and phone numbers from your SIM card in your Contacts list.

TIP: Your SIM Card only contains the bare minimum Name and Phone. Sometimes a SIM card stores names in ALL CAPS, so beware! You might need to do some additional clean up after the import. You should also review your imported contacts and add in email addresses, mobile/work phone numbers, and home/work addresses to make your BlackBerry more useful.

How Do You Get Your Contacts onto Your BlackBerry?

You can manually add contact addresses one at a time (see page 272). You can also load or sync up your computer’s contacts with your BlackBerry.

If your BlackBerry is tied to a BlackBerry Enterprise Server the synchronization is wireless and automatic. Otherwise, you will use either a USB cable or Bluetooth wireless to connect your BlackBerry to your computer to keep it up to date. For Windows PC users, see page 65. Apple Mac computer users, see page 125.

If you use Gmail (Google Mail), you can use the BlackBerry Internet Service email set up for Google to wirelessly sync contacts (see page 46) or use the Google Sync program to wirelessly update your contacts on your BlackBerry with your address book from Gmail, see page 305.

When Is Your Contact List Most Useful?

Your Contacts program is most useful when two things are true:

- You have many names and addresses in it.
- You can easily find what you need.