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From
the Nov. 2006 Review of Point-of-Sale Systems

QuickBooks
Point of Sale – Version 5 is the newest release of this specialty product from Intuit. Designed to be a standalone POS solution, QuickBooks POS can also be paired with QuickBooks financial software for a complete front and back office solution.

EASE OF USE — 5 Stars
QuickBooks Point of Sale (QuickBooks POS) is designed for entry-level software users, and its interface suits new users perfectly. A 'Get Started With Tutorials' screen appears upon installation. Users can familiarize themselves with the product and learn how to set up the company business. An optional tour of all key features is also available.

The main screen of QuickBooks POS is divided into several flow charts, with an area for each type of activity. To the left are links to merchant services, purchasing supplies, Help and support, and the learning center. At the top of the screen is a drop-down menu, which also provides access to all functions. Directly below is a task bar that offers one-click access to frequently used functions such as Make a Sale, Customers, End of Day, Items, and Receive Items. The sales entry screen has a lookup option for locating customers, and customers can also be added on the fly. Products can be scanned into the system or UPC codes can be entered. Clicking on the edit button will change the default pricing or quantity. Returns can also be processed from the same screen by clicking

on the "return receipt" option to the left of the main screen. Using

FEATURES/FUNCTIONALITY — 5 Stars

QuickBooks POS – Version 5 contains several new features, including the ability to offer and track customer gift cards, a more detailed item history, additional system customization features and enhanced reporting options. The system can be used directly from the computer screen or with a touch screen. Toolbars can be customized to suit a business's needs, and the end-of-day process is simple with options to transmit information to QuickBooks Financial software.

Barcodes for inventory can be easily created for quicker sales processing and tracking. Every sale displays a customer history, which is an excellent tool for targeting sales. QuickBooks POS integrates with QuickBooks Financial software, eliminating duplicate data entry. And the improved data transfer function makes it easier than ever to transfer data between QuickBooks Financial Software and Point of Sale.

Work orders are easily created and deposits accepted using any payment method acceptable. Orders can be e-mailed to customers for quicker processing, and special instructions can be added when needed. Both inventoried and non-inventoried
items can be processed, and the default cost can be edited for sales or customer discounts.

INTEGRATION — 4.5 Stars

Improved integration with QuickBooks Financial Software makes synchronizing data easier than ever. Various peripheral devices are also available that integrate with QuickBooks POS, including barcode scanners, receipt printers, credit card readers and cash drawers. A built-in credit and debit card processing feature is included in the software, and rates are competitive.

TRACKING/REPORTS — 4.5 Stars

RELATIVE VALUE — 5 Stars

QuickBooks POS is suitable for retail establishments with up to 10 stores. It is priced at $799 for the Basic version. A software/hardware bundle is also available for $1,499.95, and includes QuickBooks POS 5.0, a cash drawer, a receipt printer, a barcode scanner, and a credit card reader. QuickBooks has been providing financial solutions to businesses for many years, and its new products and releases never fail to produce new options, increasing the value and making the latest technology available to small businesses everywhere.

2006 Overall Rating: 5 Stars

Technology

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