

THE NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE ALAMO PC ORGANIZATION

PC Alamode

**Alamo PC Organization is South Texas' Premier PC
Club promoting computers for everyone: from
beginner to expert.**

**www.alamopc.org
March/April 2011
Volume 28, Issue 3/4**

Alamo PC Organization
Regular Meeting is usually held
the 2nd Monday at 7:00 pm
4888 Whirlwind Drive
San Antonio, TX 78217
Loop 410 at I-35
(see map, page 2)

In This Issue

- 2 The Running of the Nerds, Final
- 7 Cloud Computing Explained
- 9 Understanding System Restore
- 10 A "Light Peak" at Thunderbolt
- 12 Excel 2007 Tips
- 14 Files and Folders, and Now Libraries
- 16 Access 2010 The Missing Manual
- 17 Free Comic Books Online
- 20 7 Little Word Annoyances and Their Easy Fixes
- 22 The Lighter Side
- 23 Smart Computing Tips
- 24 Updates! Updates! Updates!
- 25 A Free Apple a Day Keeps the Doctor Away

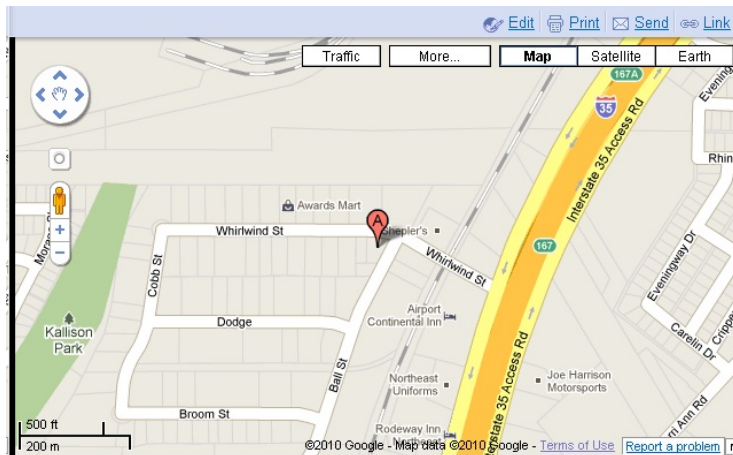
Windows 7 Tip

Search the Internet from the Start Menu

The Start Menu's search box is a convenient way to search through your PC -- but you can also have it do double-duty and perform Internet searches as well. To enable this feature:

1. In the Start Menu search box, type GPEDIT.MSC and press Enter to run the Group Policy Editor.
2. Go to User Configuration --> Administrative Templates --> Start Menu and Taskbar.
3. Double-click "Add Search Internet link to Start Menu," and from the screen that appears, select Enabled. Then click OK and close the Group Policy Editor.
4. From now on, when you type a search term in the Search box on the Start Menu, a "Search the Internet" link will appear. Click the link to launch the search in your default browser with your default search engine.

Map to Meeting



DISCLAIMER

As most of you know, the Alamo PC Organization has significantly reduced in size. Although the organization has been pretty much dead for the past few months, there are a few key people that have been working behind the scenes to try to resurrect and revive the group. Although it is a slow process, there has been a lot of headway made.

For example, we are happy to be able to again offer our members a chance to download the award winning PC Alamode magazine. Even though it is somewhat reduced in size, it is still packed with great articles and tip and tricks for optimizing your PC's and just plain having fun.

Starting in the 1st quarter of 2011, we will again be having PC-based presentations at our monthly meetings. Some will be live, while others will be "net" meetings. Regardless of the type, they will all prove to be beneficial to the attendees.

So, as you can see, we want to continue the comradery of the user group, and want you back. We are presently charging no dues, and will try to continue this policy as long as we can. However, donations are and will be greatly appreciated.

The rest of the website will remain up and accessible by all visitors, with the caveats below.

Most of the information on the website is "dated" and the accuracy of the information cannot be guaranteed. With these limitations in mind, we hope visitors to the website find what remains to be somewhat informative and helpful.

PC Alamode (ISSN 1065-3708) is published on-line monthly by the Alamo PC Organization, Inc., PO Box 65180, San Antonio, TX 78265-5180, an independent association of personal computer users, founded in January 1983, and incorporated in January 1984 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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The Running of the Nerds

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Finally! The much anticipated and always welcome last list from the 2011 CES running of the nerds. A half-dozen goodies that caught my eye, made me stop and look and decide to add to my growing list...no, I did not save the best for last...too trite to mention...just six I had not used in my previous 2 lists...and, to satisfy a critic...my only one it seems, something for you iPad devotees...really, u will love it!

Genesis

The new Genesis, just announced by Lexmark, is about the coolest-looking business device since the MacBook Air. Even better, it's powerful and efficient. It's also exceptionally simple to use, and satisfyingly accessible when it comes to more complicated scanning and printing requirements, like multiple images on one page.

In case you can't tell from the photo, what's new about the Genesis is that it stands vertically, as opposed to horizontally as other printers do. So when you want to copy or scan a document, you lift the front of the case forward and drop the paper in.



Lexmark Genesis

Inside the machine is a 10-megapixel camera sensor which enables the machine to scan much faster than most scanners and printers. Lexmark's claim, borne out in our tests, is that it transfers "from document to digital" in about three seconds – it's not unusual to wait a minute or more for this to occur with most printers. There's no automatic page feeder, please note, which is about the worst you can say about the Genesis.

If you're familiar with scanning documents you'll know the most time-consuming and deeply frustrating part of the process is finding you've positioned the original in just-not-quite the right place, and you only discover this when the scanning is finished.

Here, the camera sensor puts an image of what you'll get onto the color display on the front of the printer. So you know instantly if you're in the right place and can adjust accordingly.

Logitech Revue - This is for all u who want access to everything, everywhere!

It's TV that's all yours: With Logitech Revue, what you're into is what's on. Enter your favorite actor and get what they're doing on TV, the Web, Twitter and more. Watch the game and your fantasy draft at the same time. Add the controller that fits your style. TV with lots of possibilities means TV that you make your own.

Google TV in a box: Logitech Revue comes with an easy-to-set-up companion box and an intuitive companion keyboard controller. Simply connect your TV and cable or satellite set-top box via HDMI and your high speed Internet connection via Ethernet or Wi-Fi to the Logitech Revue, and you've got Google TV.

Future ready: Your TV can be the TV of the future, and it will only get better. Logitech Revue is a companion to your TV and not a TV itself, so it can be easily updated. Plus Google TV is an open platform, with developers creating more apps and functionality for release this year, so your TV will do more as Google TV does more.

Built-in expandability: A growing selection of accessories means a growing Logitech Revue experience. From video cameras that let you share your TV watching experience to a smartphone app that gives you full control over your entire entertainment experience from your phone, your Logitech Revue has room to do more.

Apps for your TV: With Logitech Revue, you get apps created just for your TV, including Netflix®, NBA.TV and Pandora®. And with apps for your TV available in the Android™ Market later this year, there's no telling what your TV will be able to do.



A compact keyboard, touchpad, and remote

Not your average keyboard: The keyboard controller that's included lets you find your shows, surf the Web, or turn up the volume. By combining a compact keyboard, a touchpad, and a remote in a sleek, living room-worthy design, Logitech Revue gives you full wireless control over all your entertainment without leaving the couch.

Wired and wireless: To make sure your content is streaming as fast as possible, Logitech Revue comes with your choice of Ethernet or fast 802.11 b/g/n Wi-Fi, so you can get high-quality audio and video with whichever one works best for your setup.

Pocket eDGe is the world's smallest dualbook-this is really neat. 7" tablet on one side, for Android apps like web browsing, audio recording, and games.

A 6" reader on the other side, for glare-free reading and stylus handwriting. Beautifully connected. Seamlessly integrated. And more than twice as functional as a reader or tablet alone.

Pocket eDGe

- Dimensions: 5.5" x 7.5" x 1.0" closed, 11.0" x 7.5" x 0.5" open
- Weight: 1.35 lb
- Tablet screen: 7.0" WXGA (800x480)
- Tablet input: Resistive touch (use finger or stylus on screen), optical finger pad
- Reader screen: 6.0" e-Ink® (800x600), 16 shades of gray
- Reader input: Stylus (Wacom Penabled®)
- Operating system: Linux® with Google® Android™
- Internal memory: 3GB
- Connectivity: Wi-Fi™ 802.11 b/g, Bluetooth® capability, Ethernet-to-USB adapter available
- Screen Rotation: 90 and 180 degrees (tablet), 180 degrees (reader)
- Reader file formats: ePub, PDF
- Tablet video formats: 3GP, MP4, Adobe Flash Lite® (H.264), AVI (DivX or Xvid encoded), MOV, WMV
- Tablet audio formats: MP3, WAV, 3GPP, MP4, AAC, OGG, M4A
- Keyboard: Virtual keyboard on tablet screen or connect your own by USB
- MicroSD card slot
- Standard USB port
- Mini-USB port with mini-USB-to-USB cable included
- Battery life: up to 6 hours, or up to 11 hours using only the reader screen
- Camera: 2 megapixel with video capability
- Built-in microphone
- Built-in stereo speakers
- 3.5mm headphone/headset jack (TRRS)



Pocket eDGe

Aisle 411 is an easier way to shop...shoppers, man your carts...this one is for u!



Aisle 411 is an easier way to shop

Search: Just the way you want it in-store. Quick, simple and intuitive results with one search. Each search lets you map it, add to list, share, or even edit the location.

Offers: We'll inform you of deals you can find in-store; we call them Informational Offers. Some stores offer Digital coupons that you can "clip" to your shopper loyalty card. Then scan your shopper loyalty, and get savings off your bill.

Shopping Lists: Save a generic list, or manage lists by specific store. With aisle411, items are organized by aisle and section. You can also map

your List(with stores that provide them) and use aisle411's unique interactive map to guide you through the store while you shop. Or, share your list via SMS or email.

Reviews: Once you find what you're after, you can scan barcodes (iPhone app only) and get product reviews served up from Amazon.com. Even tap and speak the UPC number and we'll pull review results if available.

Social Gaming: We think shopping should be fun, so with aisle411, you can earn virtual rewards for not only a "check-in" at a store, but for "doing things" within aisle411. Searching, sharing, mapping a list, and even clipping some offers earn you points and badges. Some of the badges could unlock special offers from retailers and brands. There's even some "hidden" rewards you can stumble upon as you search. Then share your rewards with your friends on social networks easily.

Available in select markets and retailers.

Just Mobile...here u go...if u have an iPad, u must have this!

Wanna experience the stylish stylus for iPad? Just Mobile AluPen™ is a chunky pencil-shaped stylus with a soft rubber nib that sits perfectly in the hand to make drawing and writing a uniquely smooth experience.



Anti-Sleep Pilot - Break at the right time...depending on your driving routine, this may be an absolute must to have.

Tiredness causes one in every five road traffic accidents: We all experience tiredness occasionally when driving. The longer we drive the greater the risk of feeling tired as we drive. Tiredness and driving are a lethal combination, responsible for around 20% of all road traffic accidents.

Problem - We do not know when it is time to take a break: Tiredness causes as many near misses and accidents on the road as alcohol. But the big difference is that tiredness is hard to gauge. With alcohol, motorists are not allowed to drink more than a certain amount. But how do you assess tiredness?



Anti-Sleep Pilot

Break at the right time: Research has shown that regularly activating the driver and taking breaks at the right time can prevent driving when tired. The Anti Sleep Pilot is a new Danish product that calculates how tired you are, maintains your alertness and lets you know when it is time to take a break.

This product aims at prevention. Unlike other solutions, the Anti Sleep Pilot is not designed to wake you up once you have fallen asleep. If you fall asleep, reaction will often come too late.

Instead, the Anti Sleep Pilot helps you avoid hazardous situations caused by tiredness. This is why we say: break at the right time.

Anti Sleep Pilot adapts to you and your driving: The Anti Sleep Pilot adapts itself to you and your driving. It can be used by anyone because it is customized for each individual driver and driving situation. A single device will work for a variety of drivers and installs in all cars, irrespective of make or model. It has been carefully designed so as to provide a subtle interaction with the driver, avoiding unnecessary distraction.

Now, if u had a pilot I would know you would still be awake so I can tell you that's it, have fun, be careful and we will see u next time.

Aloha, Lou

You can read Lou's monthly column at



http://www.aroundhawaii.com/technology_in_plain_english.html / <http://bit.ly/f3TQ5t>

Cloud Computing Explained

By Sandy Berger, Compu-KISS

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In our fast-moving world of technology, common words sometimes take on new meanings. Apples and blackberries used to be fruits, now they are also a type of computer and a mobile phone. To back up used to mean "to go backward".

Now it means to "make a copy of your data." Gingerbread used to be a tasty treat. Now it is also an Android operating system. A cloud used to be a fluffy white mass that floats in the sky. Now everyone is talking about a different type of cloud.

You may have heard the terms "cloud computing", "cloud storage", and/or "cloud services". In all of these, the cloud simply means the Internet, but the new terminology is indicative of a big change that is already taking place.

Cloud applications are replacing desktop programs. That means that instead of having a program running on your computer, you use a program or service that is on the Internet. Your computer or your mobile device is simply the conduit that connects with your data and with a program that accesses your data.

Many people are already taking advantage of these new cloud applications. Right now the most widely used cloud applications are email programs. Using cloud-based services like Gmail, Yahoo Mail, Hotmail, and AOL Mail is a popular thing to do. When you use a web-based email program, your email is stored on Internet-connected servers that are run by

the company that provides the service. So your Gmail account is hosted by Google. A Yahoo Mail account is hosted by Yahoo! and a Hotmail account is kept on servers owned by Microsoft. With any of these services you can very easily access all of your email, including old email that you have saved, from many different Internet-connected devices including computers, cell phones, and tablets. You can easily access your email at work, see the same email on your mobile phone on the way home, and then see exactly the same email on your home computer.

If you are now thinking that perhaps you don't trust Google or Microsoft or AOL with your email, just remember that even if you use an email program like Outlook or Windows Mail that resides on your own computer, your email is still going through the servers of your Internet Service Provider. So, in effect, with email you have to trust some company or service.

Email alone has already propelled us into cloud computing. The email services mentioned above are all free and they are all feature-laden, so millions of people have already taken advantage of these services. In fact the move to email in the cloud is more of a tsunami than a wave. Google's Gmail service started in 2004. Wikipedia reports that as of November 2010, Gmail already had 193.3 million users monthly.

Other cloud applications are also becoming popular. Google offers a whole set of free web-based applications that rival Microsoft Office. With Google Docs you can create and edit word-processing documents, spreadsheets and presentations. These are like online versions of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. In some ways they are even better because as with other cloud services, your documents are available from any Internet-connected computer. If you create a document at work you can go home and see and change the same document. When you get to work in the morning, your document has all the changes that you made at home. You can also give another person or group of people access to your documents. This allows several people to make changes to the same document -- great for collaborating on anything from a church schedule to a complicated business proposal.



Millions of people also upload their photos to Picasa, Flickr, Shutterfly, Snapfish, the Kodak Gallery, and other online photo services. This is a great example of cloud storage. It allows you to have a copy of your photos online, to share them easily with family and friends, and to show them off almost anywhere.

This week the move to cloud computing took an even bigger leap as Amazon unveiled a new service called Cloud Drive. This service gives you 5GB of free online (think cloud) storage for your music. This can be music that you purchase from Amazon or music that you upload from your computer or your CDs. Amazon then provides a small app called a CloudPlayer that you can use to easily play your music on your computer and/or any Android cell phone or tablet. This effectively means that you can play your own music just about anywhere. You don't need a memory card. You don't need to move your music around. You don't have to

sync your portable device to your computer. Whenever you add new music, it is available everywhere. This is cloud computing at its best.

Amazon is currently giving the first 5GB of storage for free and charging \$20 a year for 20 GB. They currently also have some special deals for additional storage. You can also use this storage for files other than music, as well. You can store documents, pictures, and videos. You can access your files anytime from any Internet-connected computer and you can download them to your computer if you like. Google and Apple are also said to be working on similar services.

A few years ago, people questioned whether they would be willing to make the move to online computing, online services, and online storage of their data. That question seems to be answered. We are moving quickly to a ubiquitous Internet. Working in the cloud offers conveniences that are very enticing. Almost all of the services we talked about here are free. Pretty soon we will all be flying high -- in the cloud!

Understanding System Restore

By Vinny La Bash, Regular Columnist
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March 2011 issue, Sarasota PC Monitor
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Windows 7 has a new and improved version of System Restore that is far superior to the lame utility that came with XP. Setting a restore point was often painfully slow, and it rarely worked as it should have. Windows 7 System Restore easily helps you bring back your computer's system files to an earlier point in time. It's a way to undo system changes to your computer without affecting your personal files, such as e-mail, documents, or photos.

Sometimes, the installation of a program or a driver can cause an unexpected change to your computer or cause Windows to behave unpredictably. Usually, uninstalling the program or driver corrects the problem. If uninstalling does not fix the problem, you can try restoring your computer's system to an earlier date when everything worked correctly.

System Restore uses a feature called System Protection to regularly create and save restore points on your computer. These restore points contain information about registry settings and other system information that Windows uses. You can also create restore points manually.

System Restore is not intended for backing up personal files, so it cannot help you recover a photograph or video that has been deleted or damaged. You should regularly back up your personal files and important data using a backup program. Windows 7 has an excellent built-in backup utility.

Windows 7 uses the Shadow Copy feature, introduced in Vista. It's vastly superior to the process in XP and earlier versions of Windows. The old way used a simple file filter and

copied files around the system which was clumsy compared to the Shadow Copy method. Today, Windows creates a snapshot of your drive which can later be used to restore your system should catastrophe occur.

Additional capabilities of Shadow copy include taking snapshots of files even when currently in use. Microsoft has incorporated this feature into Previous Versions which allows restoring a previous version of an application. Unfortunately, this power is available only in Windows Professional or Ultimate.

The easiest way to bring up System Restore is to type System in the Start menu search box and select it from the resulting list. Another way is to select the Recovery option from Control Panel, or you can simply type rstrui in the search box.

Whatever method you choose will bring up the System Restore dialog box that gives you some helpful information. Select the Next button to get a list of restore points. Most of the time you will be using the most recent restore point to get your system working again.

Focus your attention on the Description list. This can give you an important indication of what went wrong. Did your problem begin after installing a Critical Update, a backup operation, or a new freeware program that you couldn't resist?

When you apply System Restore the system creates another restore point so you can undo the change if your problem isn't fixed. You can't undo System Restore however, if you use it in safe mode. But you can run System Restore again and select a different restore point.

Restore points are saved until the disk space Windows allocates to the utility is used up. Then the oldest restore points are deleted as new ones are needed. The easiest way to delete all previous restore points is to turn System Restore off, and then turn it back on again. Don't worry about running out of space.

Many computer problems can be traced to sloppy programs written by people who don't know enough about proper programming techniques to get their utilities published by reliable vendors. It's surprising how many problems are generated by faulty uninstall tools. There are many sound freeware offerings out in cyberspace, but don't use them unless they come tested and approved by a trusted source like Smart Computing. :

A “Light Peak” at Thunderbolt

TechTip by Ryan Morse, March 13, 2011

www.geeks.com

Apple has been stealing recent headlines with two product line refreshes in the past few weeks. The bigger of the two was probably the iPad 2, but it's the I/O technology introduced in the new MacBook Pro I'm interested in. Thunderbolt, a collaborative effort between Intel and Apple, dubbed “the fastest connection to your PC experience,” is the newest high-speed I/O protocol and in this TechTip we're getting to know this interface and what it's bringing to the table.

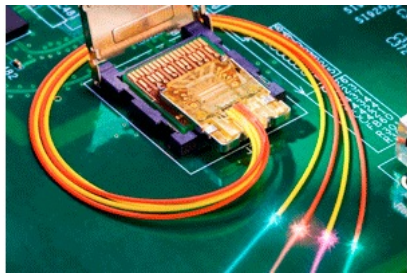
History



Intel announced Thunderbolt, which was codenamed Light Peak at the time, at their Intel Developers Forum (IDF) in 2009 on a system that was displaying two 1080p HD video streams at once over optical cables (hence the “light” in Light Peak), that used modified USB connectors. Intel intended it to replace the many different cables, especially video cables, on the market and that it would be in PCs by 2010. The cables were initially designed to bundle optical and copper wiring together, pairing the speed of light with the electrical conductivity of copper, to provide a low-latency, high-speed connection that provides power for devices.

What is it

Thunderbolt combines the existing fundamental technologies of PCI Express bandwidth and Mini DisplayPort connectors to provide two-channel 10 Gb/s bandwidth upstream and downstream per port, double that of USB 3.0, over copper wire cables with optical cables coming later. You will be able to daisy-chain up to seven devices together, anything from high-resolution displays to cameras, scanners, and data storage devices, all without a hub, because Thunderbolt controllers will be able to transmit video and data signals at the same time over the same cable. A “power-only” copper cable will carry up to 10 watts of power at up to 3 meters and optical cables will be able to carry signals at what Intel says will be “tens of meters.” If you scoffed at the previously-mentioned 10 Gb/s bandwidth,



Intel has already demonstrated 700 Mb/s on its prototype hardware. Since Thunderbolt uses existing technology, it’s designed to work seamlessly with your operating system. A Thunderbolt device will work as either a PCI Express or DisplayPort device on a non-Thunderbolt system, which solves the problem of port-sharing. If you accidentally plug a Thunderbolt device into a regular Mini DisplayPort, it should work, provided the device isn’t relying on

power through that port. You can also use non-Thunderbolt devices in your daisy-chain by adding them to the end of the chain. You can also use the wide variety of DisplayPort, DVI, and VGA adapters so your older displays will work with it as well.

Impact

Since Thunderbolt is debuting on the MacBook Pro and will double as the system’s Mini DisplayPort, it’s primary use is going to be connecting to high-definition displays and HDTVs, but with its ability to handle extremely high bandwidth transfers, it’s perfectly suited for carrying high-definition audio as well, making it a viable competitor to both HDMI and FireWire, as its functionality serves both of their functions. Intel also claims that Thunderbolt is a complement to USB 3.0, as opposed to being a replacement. It isn’t clear if Apple is going to phase FireWire out of its products in the future, but Thunderbolt seems like a logical step forward because it’s designed to accomplish the same thing and is twelve times as fast, and its Mini DisplayPorts consume very little space.



Conclusion

Thunderbolt essentially brings PCI Express connectivity out through Mini DisplayPorts, but it's not designed for every home user just yet. Instead, it's aimed at the professional and workstation market segment, especially those who are editing high-definition audio and video.

This may not have an immediate effect on the home user, but as it is said, "a rising tide lifts all boats."

Excel 2007 Tips

By Constance Brown, President, Canton/Alliance/Massillon UG, Ohio
March 2011 issue, The Memory Map
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One of the first frustrations of moving to Excel 2007 or 2010 from an earlier version is caused by the new xlsx extension that has replaced the xls extension that Excel spreadsheets used for many years. This change does not allow users of earlier versions of Excel to open the spreadsheets created in the new versions unless they have downloaded a compatibility viewer. If you are using a new version of Excel and need to share a spreadsheet with someone in an office that has not yet updated their version of Excel, you can choose to save the new spreadsheet in an earlier format.

To do this, it is best to save the spreadsheet first of all in the new format. Click on the Office button (2007) or File > Save (2010) and Save as an Excel Workbook. Then save the spreadsheet once again, using the drop-down menu to select Save as Excel 97-2003 Workbook. At this point you have other choices as well. Perhaps you wish to save it to be opened in the free Open Office suite.

If so, select Open Document Spreadsheet. You can also choose to have the file saved as a pdf which can be viewed, though not manipulated, in Adobe Acrobat Reader or any number of other free pdf readers.



Have you ever wanted to copy a spreadsheet to another worksheet in the same or a new workbook?

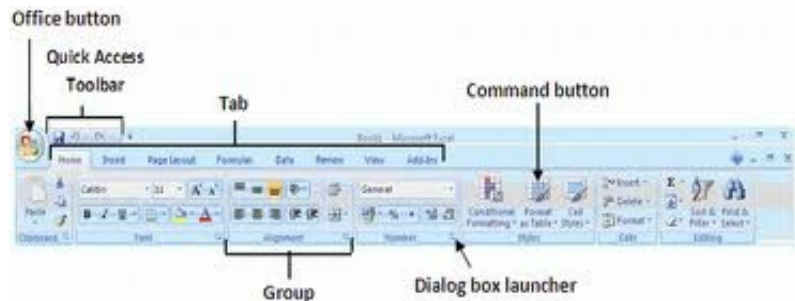
The slickest way to do so is to R click on the tab at the bottom of the worksheet and select Move or Copy. A window opens asking where you wish to move or copy the selected sheets. If you wish to Copy, be sure to click on the box in front of the words Create a Copy. All your information PLUS formatting and formulas will be preserved.

By the way, you can rename tabs and assign colors to tabs by right clicking on them. And you can drag tabs to change the order. You can also delete tabs by R Clicking and you can also insert worksheets from other workbooks through choices offered through R clicking. To

insert additional worksheets in the existing workbook, click on the icon with a starburst to the right of your existing group of tabs.

Suppose you are looking at a spreadsheet that shows all the companies that have purchased products from you and how much you have profited from the sales. You wish to know what the average profit is, as well as the least and greatest amount of profit. And certainly you want to know how much your total profit is. Did you know you can find out all these answers and more without writing any formulas? First we will click on the Status Bar, an open area to the left of the zoom slider bar, and make sure that all the items we want are checked. Next we will click on the column header above the column title of Profits to highlight the entire Profits column. Voila! The Status Bar displays all the information we wanted to see!

Now let's suppose that we wish to call attention to the profits that are above average. We do this through Conditional Formatting. With the entire Profits column highlighted, we will go to the Styles command group on the Home tab. We will select Top/Bottom Rules and then Above Average and select the color scheme we wish to apply to the cells displaying the above average profits. We can add icon indicators as well. Freezing Panes offers a way to view column and/or row headers while scrolling. Click on the tab titled View. Click on a cell on a row below the header and then on Freeze Panes / Freeze Top Row. To freeze both a row and a header, click on the cell immediately to the right of the row you wish to freeze and below the header.



That would often be cell B2. Then click on Freeze Panes / Freeze Panes.

Let's look at one more way to examine our data. This time we will use filters. We access filters from the tab titled View. You will see the filter under the command group titled Sort and Filter. Click on the filter. Each column header will then display a button with a down arrow. Suppose we are still working with our spreadsheet that shows profits from various companies in the regions of the country where we sell products. We can go to the Regions header and click on the down arrow of the filter and remove the checkmarks from all except the West. Now we can look carefully at all the companies that have purchased from us in the West. We can additionally filter on companies and or products to discover what products and companies are most successful in the region we have selected.

Excel is a powerful program with many user friendly tools hiding in the Ribbon. Don't let the new look of Excel intimidate you. There are many more powerful features and additional ones that have been released in Excel 2010.

Go exploring and see what nuggets you can discover to share with others!

File and Folders, and Now Libraries

By Phil Sorrentino, President, Sarasota PCUG, FL

Sarasota PC Monitor

www.spcug.org / [president \(at\) spcug.org](mailto:president@spcug.org)



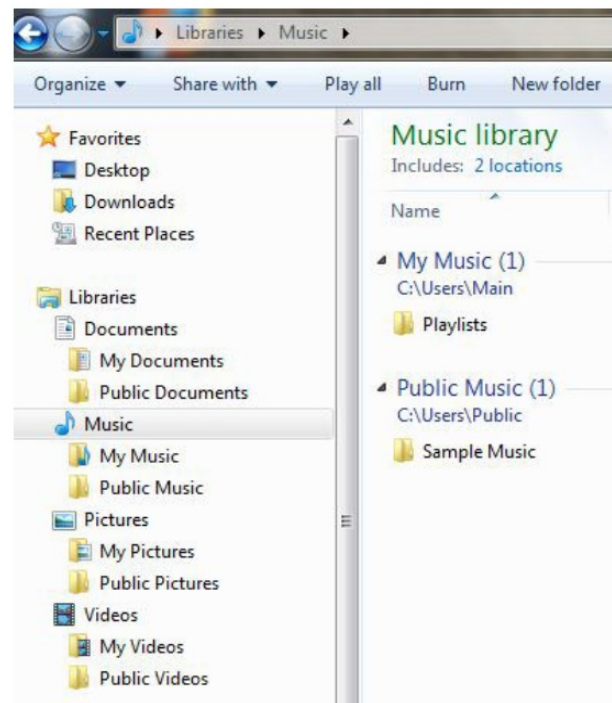
Just when you thought you had it all mastered, something new comes along to possibly change things. Well, it's not really that bad, it's actually pretty good. Libraries are a new concept in organization that has been introduced in Windows 7. You don't have to use Libraries, but they are there to help you organize and access your files. (Files being the entities that all programs work with.)

Windows 7 initially includes Libraries for Documents, Music, Pictures, and Video, the four categories of information that many people use. You can create other libraries; you are not limited to only Documents, Music, Pictures and Video. To create a new Library, Right-Click "Libraries", and then select "New-Library", and give the New Library a name (much the same way we create new Folders).

As you can see below, initially each Library includes a "My" folder and a "Public" folder. Windows 7 expects each user to organize his/her information into private and public folders. The contents of the public folders are then shared with other users on your computer. New Folders can be included in a library by using the Library Properties window. Right-click on the Library you want to add a folder to, then select Properties, and then add a Folder to the current list of "Library Locations" by clicking the "Include File Folder..." button, and then naming, or navigating to, the Folder to be included in the Library. Folders can be removed from a Library by Right-Clicking the folder to be deleted and selecting Delete.

A file, as you will remember from one of our basic classes, is a collection of related information. That information is organized in a certain way and the applications that use that "type" of file knows the organization scheme and therefore how to use the information. The file type is kept with the file name and is actually the extension part of the file name, (the letters after the period). For example, the file "picture1.jpg" is a jpg type of file. (If you don't see the file extensions after the period when using Windows Explorer, it is because Windows is initially defaulted to not show the extensions. To show the file extensions, Click Start, then Click Control Panel, then Double-Click the Folder Options icon, then Click View, then Uncheck the "Hide extensions for known file types" box, and finally, Click OK).

There are many types of files. In fact, if you



Google "file types" you will find websites that describe hundreds of different file types. The "filext.com" website (and many others) has an alphabetical index to help you find a particular file type. To review information about a particular file type, click on the first letter of the file type of interest, then find the file type in the list and then click on that file type. (Caution: To be safe, if you do go to this or any other site to see information about file types, please do not click on any link you are not sure of, or any link that suggests a "scan" of your system or your system's registry or hard drive.) And while considering Files and folders, just to be complete, Folders are collections of Files and/or other Folders. Folders are essentially containers.

Now, Getting back to Libraries. Libraries are collections of folders. Libraries are a way of collecting information (files) in order to keep related things together. The Pictures Library is intended to keep track of all of your Pictures (jpg, jpeg, bmp, tiff, and other picture file types) in one spot, therefore making it easier to work with your pictures. Similarly, the Documents Library is intended to organize your documents (doc, docx, rtf, txt, and other text file types); the Music Library is intended to corral your music files (mp3, wma, wav, m3u, and other music file types); and the Video Library is intended to corral your Video files (mpeg, avi, mov, vob, and other video file types).

Libraries can also be created to organize information for a specific purpose, say a Movie Maker Project. You could create a Library for a particular Movie, say the "OurWedding" movie. You would create a Library called OurWedding and then you would include, in that library, the working folders that you use while using your pictures, music and video applications. (The actual folders remain with the application, but they are viewed as part of the OurWedding library.) Then, when you create files using the various applications, all of the files relating to OurWedding would show up in one specific place, the OurWedding Library (a pretty neat trick, don't you think?). This is pretty good because it leaves the specific application to deal only with its specific type of file, and yet keeps all the project files in one place for the project application. (For example you could use Windows Media Player to Rip music from your CDs, Photoshop Elements to collect and finish the pictures of your wedding, and Adobe Premier Elements to preview and cut the videos for the movie. When all the Picture, Music, and Video files are done and in their folders, you could use Movie Maker with the OurWedding library to put it all together into a Movie and burn it to a DVD.)

Libraries provide a way of superimposing a structure or organization on what might look like an unorganized collection of files and folders. Libraries are really just another tool to be used to help us use our computers in a smart way. When you get Windows 7, give them a try but don't jump in too fast. First, organize your folders in a basic structure (the way you might think of organizing a file cabinet) and then apply Libraries on top of that basic organization, to your benefit. In time, I'm sure you'll find Libraries helpful.

Access 2010 The Missing Manual

By George Harding, Treasurer, Tucson Computer Society, AZ

March 2011 issue, TCS eJournal

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The Missing Manual series now totals almost 60 books! The reason the series is so popular is because software/hardware makers don't include the hefty manual they used to, but buyers need more than the Quick Reference Guide that now replaces the manual that used to be. It's published by O'Reilly - Pogue Press .



The book is written by Matthew MacDonald but there is a team behind him that supports a colossal project such as writing a book. All examples have to be tested by actual example. The illustrations in the book, likewise, have to be reproduced.

The book is pretty hefty, consisting of 812 pages, of which 17 are the all-important index and one Appendix. The book is divided into seven parts with 23 chapters, each covering a broad topic.

The Introduction is, in contrast to some, very valuable. It tells what's new in the 2010 version of Access and how to use some of these features. One of the valuable items is the "missing" CD-ROM. You can download it at the web site. It has all the examples used in the book,

so you can see how to do any of them.

Access has four main parts: tables, queries, forms and reports. The latter three all depend on tables.

Part One of the book deals with creating tables, accessing the data contained in them, making sure the data is useful and valid, and relationships between tables. This is probably the most important section, because if the table isn't built correctly, the queries, forms and reports may not work properly.

Part Two covers queries, including the basic select type, as well as update, append and update types. Since many forms and reports use queries as the source for information, learning how to create and use them is important. Frankly, though, creating select queries is really easy and the other forms are not often useful.

Part Three deals with creating and printing reports.

Part Four covers forms, including using a special type of form as a user interface. Simple forms, though, are easy to create and are most useful for those who are not very familiar with Access.

That covers the four basic tools in Access, but there's more. Access has built in an extensive programming system and Part Five covers several aspects of it. These include macros and Visual Basic. With these two tools, one can develop a database system that is useful, but whose insides aren't visible to the user.

Part Six, the last one, covers new aspects of Access, namely, multi-user databases, import/export, connecting Access to SQL Server and SharePoint, as well as building a web database.

This is both a top-notch reference book and a helpful learning tool. I highly recommend it.

About: Access 2010 The Missing Manual

Author: Matthew MacDonald

Vendor: O'Reilly-Pogue Press

www.missingmanuals.com

ISBN-10: 1449382371

ISBN-13: 978-1449382377

Price: \$39.99, \$24.55 @ Amazon

Free Comic Books Online

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WEBSITES:

<http://www.techsupportalert.com/free-books-comics>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cult/buffy/ecomics>

<http://borderwalker.com>

http://www.comicweb.com/goldenage_comics.htm

https://read.dccomics.com/comixology/#/free_comics

<http://digitalcomicmuseum.com>

When I was a kid growing up in the 50's, I enjoyed buying and reading comic books. While most of them were a dime, some were expensive at a quarter. My dad acquiesced and when I with him to the drug store to buy funny comic books that he approved, such as Little Lulu. My mom gave in if I wanted to buy any of the classic comic books, which were literature trans-formed into a comic book format. Some of my elementary school teachers decried comic books as the ruin of my generation, and confiscated them in wholesale quantities from me and my classmates, probably to surreptitiously read in private and to trade with the other teachers for their stash of contraband. Today, with the internet, video games, and other forms of entertainment, contemporary comic books are not as popular or as widely available as in the past. For present and former comic book aficionados, there are now free online resources that allow some of us to relive our long lost juvenile days, and to also allow today's generations to experience the joys that I enjoyed decades ago.

One of the top free software information websites, Gizmo's Freeware (techsupportalert.com) recently published a directory and reviews of the top free online comic book repositories (techsupportalert.com/free-books-comics). Gizmo made it a point that the listed sites were not pirate websites displaying illicit copies of copyrighted content, but instead were totally legitimate websites with totally legal content.



The first listed site that I visited displayed the first issue of Action Comics, dated June, 1938, which is the issue that introduced Superman to the world. According to Gizmo, a copy of this issue sold recently for \$1.5 million, but anyone can view it online for free.

One of my adult daughters is a fan of the TV version of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer", and would probably find the 11 "e-comics" posted online by the BBC most interesting (bbc.co.uk/cult/buffy/ecomics). BBC has also posted several of the "Dr. Who" comic series online at

www.bbc.co.uk/doctorwho/s4/misc/fiction/writerscomics for those who like the popular TV show of the same name.

"The Comic Web" at www.comicweb.com/goldenage_comics.htm has over 30 full-length comics from 1936 to 1955 that can be viewed online for free, and downloaded as a PDF for only a dime. Captain Marvel #1 "Captain Marvel Battles the Vampire" from 1941 started a cult classic, and can be viewed online at www.comicweb.com/onlinecomics/captain_marvel_01_story.pdf. Other Comic Web holdings include a few of the World War II series of super hero comics "Fighting Yank"

where the super hero, wearing a cloak and tri-corner hat reminiscent of 1776 takes on the axis powers. On the bottom of each "Fighting Yank" page is a patriotic statement of the day, encouraging the reader to buy war bonds or to contribute to the scrap drives to defeat the axis. Considering the date of publication and the then contemporary events in the news, it is obvious how the "Fighting Yank" would appeal to the children of the day. One of the oldest comics on the Comic Web page is "Detective Picture Stories #1 - Bogus Bills" from 1936. "GI Joe #10" from 1950, reflects some of the sentiments from early in the Korean War, where the U.S. soldiers have to deal with the likes of an attractive female reporter while dealing with a "Russky tank". While patriotism is a common theme of many comics of the period, what may be the epitome of a patriot super hero may be the 1941 rendition of "The



Flag" who is the adopted son of a crippled war hero, and has the speed of the wind, and the strength of a hundred men. In his red, white, and blue uniform he takes on the enemies of America. In Our Flag #3, The Flag removes a flag bearing the swastika from the dome of the capitol building, and defeats the enemy who has torn down the American flag from the Capitol building; in just 16 pages, The Flag saves the country. While not as dramatic, in the 1941 comic book "Stars and Stripes #4" another super hero, the Iron Skull, saves a convoy of ships from marauding U-Boats. While historically inaccurate, comics like these can be used to demonstrate some of the popular ideas and philosophies of the day, and show how those contemporary super heroes dealt with the pressing issues facing the country.

DC Comics, one of today's predominate comic book publishers, has been publishing comic books since 1934. In addition to producing print comic books, DC Comics has made available a large collection of free comics online at read.dccomics.com/comixology/#/free_comics. With new titles added frequently, DC Comics has an impressive collections of comic books available. In Superman Confidential #1 (January 2007), the secrets of Kryptonite are explained; for those who may be unaware of the Superman saga, Kryptonite is a strange mineral from the defunct planet Krypton, that has the unique power of sapping Superman's legendary strength, depriving him of his super powers. In a two-page teaser to encourage the reader to purchase the full comic, DC Comics online has "The Origin of Robin", the super hero that becomes the famous sidekick of Batman. Other super hero comics included on the free DC Comics website, consisting of either teasers or full editions, are the likes of Justice League of America, Wonder Woman, and the Green Lantern.

One of the largest libraries of online comic books is the Digital Comic Museum

(digitalcomicmuseum.com) which has over 6000 comic books available for free download (free registration required). On this website I found many of the comics that I enjoyed as a child. The date ranges of the comics at the Digital Comic Museum are from 1902 to 1986. Some of the larger



collections sorted by publisher on this site include Charlton Comics with 650 issues; American Comics group (493); Better/Nedor/Standard/Pines Publications (410); Comics House Publications (445); Dell Comics (517); Quality Comics (1243); and Fawcett Comics (1120 issues). Many old classics are available, including such oldies as The Katzenjammer Kids and Little Orphan Annie. There is even a comic book available that was published and distributed by the U.S. Government, "Burt the Turtle Says Duck and Cover"; we were provided a copy of this exact comic book in elementary school where it was mandatory that we read it in class, and then practiced our "Duck and Cover" drills that were supposed to protect us from a Soviet nuclear missile strike. The user should be aware that many of the comic books available for free download from this website are compressed with a variety of compression methods, so that a free universal decompression utility such as PeaZip (peazip.org), or 7-Zip (7-zip.org) may be necessary to prepare the files for viewing.

There are many other websites listed by Gizmo that have free comic books to view and download. With free resources such as these, it is easy for some of us to relive our childhood, while others may discover a forgotten but very entertaining resource.

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7 Little Word Annoyances and Their Easy Fixes

By Nancy DeMarte, Columnist, Office Talk, Sarasota PCUG, Inc., FL

March 2011 issue, Sarasota PC Monitor

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Below is a collection of frustrating things that can happen when using Microsoft Word. These annoyances can occur in any version of Word although most are geared to Word 2007 and 2010. In Word 2003, the fix-it steps may be different.

Annoyance 1 -- You accidentally press the Caps Lock key on your keyboard before typing a paragraph. When you finish, you find everything in capital letters.

The Fix: Rather than retyping the whole paragraph, highlight the text, then click the "Change Case" button (Aa), located on the Home tab in the Font group. Click "Sentence case" to transform your paragraph into normal sentences.

Annoyance 2 -- You create a party invitation with a light blue background (Page Layout tab - Page Color). But when you print it, the background is white.

The Fix: Office has set Word to not print full page background colors, probably to save users from wasting ink. You can, however, make the colored background print. Click the Office button, then Word Options -- Display. Put a check mark next to "Print background colors and images," then click OK. Until you remove this checkmark, all colored backgrounds will print.

Annoyance 3 -- You're working on a document where you've set the text size to be a fairly small 10 points. But you find that the text is too small to view comfortably while you're typing.

The Fix: Drag the Zoom slider located in the bottom right corner of the Word window to the right to enlarge the screen view of the text. When printed, the text will be 10 points no matter how big it appears on the screen.

Annoyance 4 -- You find that the spaces between lines of text in your document are wider than you want.

The Fix: If all the spaces are wider than expected, you can change the line spacing for the whole document at once. On the Home tab, in the Editing group, click Select -- All to highlight all the text. Next click the Line Spacing button in the Paragraph group and select 1.0 for single-spacing or one of the other choices.

Note: Word will not remove extra space after paragraphs when you choose a line spacing size. To remove extra space after a paragraph, select the paragraph before the extra space, click the Line Spacing button and choose "Remove Space After Paragraph." A more permanent way to create no extra space between paragraphs is to open the Paragraph group dialog box launcher (small diagonal arrow) on the Home tab and put a checkmark in front of "Don't add space between paragraphs of the same style."

Annoyance 5 -- Every time you type an email or web address into a document, it turns into a clickable hyperlink with underlined blue text, even if that isn't your intention.

The Fix: The quickest fix is to right click the address and select "Remove Hyperlink." But this is only a one time remedy. To remove this action permanently, click the Windows button, then this sequence: Word Options -- Proofing -- AutoCorrect Options -- AutoFormat As You Type. Remove the checkmark next to "Internet and Network paths with hyperlinks" and click OK.

Annoyance 6 -- You find that as you type, distracting wavy red and green lines show up under words and phrases.

The Fix: Word is set to check spelling (red lines) and grammar (green lines) as you type. This is another Proofing option which comes enabled from the factory. To turn off one or both of these features, go to Word Options (Office button - Word Options) and click Proofing. Remove the checkmarks next to "Mark grammar errors as you type" and "Check spelling as you type." You can always check spelling and grammar after your document is complete by clicking Spelling & Grammar at the left end of the Review tab.

Several of these fixes involve the settings found in the Options area of the Office 2007 menu (File menu in 2010). Options are available for all the Office programs (Word Options, Excel Options, Access Options, etc.) These default settings were determined by interviews with thousands of people who use Office regularly in the workplace. If you find that the factory settings are causing you more trouble than help, changing them is a simple task. All Office users should take a personal tour of the Options menus, which resemble this Word Options window with the AutoCorrect box open:

Annoyance 7 -- You often save documents to the same folder which is buried within other folders in My Documents. It takes several clicks to find this folder each time you want to open or save a document to it.

Fix 1: You can find almost any folder on your Windows Vista or 7 computer by typing its name into the Start Menu search box just above the Start button. Often it takes only a letter or two before the folder appears in the search results. On the downside, you have to do this each time you want to open the folder.

Fix 2: A way to make any folder immediately available is to add it to the Favorites section of the navigation pane. This pane appears on the left side of any explorer window where you are viewing, opening or saving files and folders. To make a folder a Favorite, start by creating or opening a file, like a document, and click Save As, which opens the Save As dialog box. This reveals the navigation pane on the left, showing a list of possible places to save the file. Navigate to the folder you want to make a favorite so that it is the last item in the history bar across the top. Then right click the word Favorites in the left pane. From the drop down menu, click "Add current location to Favorites." Your special folder will now appear in the Favorites list. It will also appear in the Favorites list of the other MS Office programs on your computer, such as Excel and PowerPoint. To remove a folder from Favorites, right click the folder and select Remove.

Using a computer should be fun as well as useful. Take a few minutes to think what your personal computer annoyances are and try to find fixes for them. Customizing your programs makes using the computer much more enjoyable and efficient.



The Lighter Side



Bucky Milam is a master of the fine arts, with an emphasis on the cool and casual. He is the recipient of numerous awards for his painting and graphic design, which has been displayed at the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Modern Art, the Chicago Art Institute, and the London and Tokyo Museums of Fine Art. A trumpet virtuoso, he performs widely in clubs throughout the region and is a recognized composer of jazz and classical music for brass. Bucky comes to computing as an accidental tourist. His peculiar perspective is of the visual media and the image they project of our civilization and culture. You can find his musings in each monthly issue of dacs.doc. (Danbury Area Computer Society)





Find Your Devices

To find out what components are in your computer, right-click the My Computer icon on the desktop. Click Properties, then click the General tab. This tells you what OS you are using, the processor speed, and amount of RAM in the computer. To view the actual devices, click the Hardware tab and then click the Device Manager. In the Device Manager you will see a list of every type of hardware in your computer. For example, if you click DVD/CD-ROM drives you will see each separate drive listed under that category. To see more information about any specific drive double-click it. This lets you see component info, such as the device status and if the device is enabled. You will also see what drivers the device is using and when they were last updated.

Animate Menus

You can animate the drop-down menus for FrontPage, Word, and Access. To do this, right-click any visible toolbar and then choose Customize from the shortcut menu. In the Customize dialog box, click the Options tab. Click the Menu Animations drop-down arrow and then choose an effect (such as Slide or Unfold) from the list. Click Close to confirm your choice and use the menu animations.

Quickly Enter A URL In IE

When you manually enter a URL in Internet Explorer, it can be a hassle to use your mouse to select the address bar, highlight the URL, and delete the current Web address. To expedite the process, press F6 on your keyboard and your cursor will automatically move to and highlight the current URL in the IE address bar. Because highlighted text is automatically deleted if other text is entered, you can simply type your new URL in the IE address bar.

Speedy SD Cards

The current storage capacity of memory cards allows you to store a number of MP3s and video files for playback on your mobile phone. But if you're planning on streaming the media or copying a large amount of files on and off the card, you'll want to invest in a fast SD card. SD cards are available in a Class 2, Class 4, or Class 6 transfer speed ratings, and the higher the number, the faster the card can read and write data. Rather than a maximum speed, the speed rating represents the minimum transfer speed the card will maintain, so you're assured that card won't fail below a given performance level.

Updates! Updates! Updates!

By Penny Cano, Member and Instructor for the
Dumb & Dumber Workshops, Cajun Clickers Computer Club, LA
March 2011 issue, Cajun Clickers Computer News
www.clickers.org / [ccnewsletter \(at\) cox.net](mailto:ccnewsletter@cox.net)

"Something popped up on my computer saying I needed an update. I didn't know if it was OK, so I didn't do it." Does this sound familiar? Updates are one of the most important things you can do for your computer. So what needs updating? The answer is almost all the software on your computer. Updates patch security holes that allow access to your computer from outside and correct defects in software programs.



First and foremost is Windows itself. Patches fix security vulnerabilities and program flaws in the Operating System. Most people choose Automatic Updates, which downloads and installs these "fixes" for Windows without them having to worry about it. But Windows is not the only Microsoft program that needs updating. An option you can choose in Microsoft Update allows it to also take care of Microsoft Office suite, Microsoft Works, Windows Live, Silverlight, and a whole host of other Microsoft products installed on your computer that also need updating.

Of equal importance are updates for your Virus/Spyware program or Internet Security suite.

Don't know which one you're using? It's time you found out!! Double click on the icon in the lower right hand corner of the screen and when the program opens look for the date of the latest definition/update. It should be no later than yesterday. The virus program can only remove the "bad stuff" if it can recognize it, and it gets those descriptions in the definitions downloaded from the Internet.

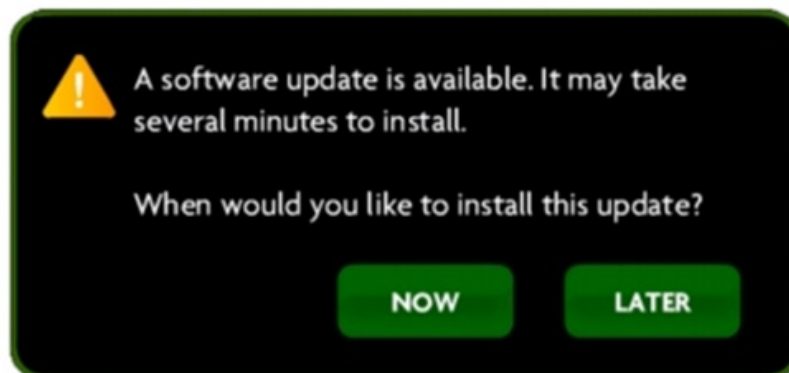
Now what else needs updating? Java, Flashplayer, and Shockwave are three programs that deal with animation on websites. Adobe Reader occasionally has newer versions, but there are updates for the older versions if you prefer to keep them instead of upgrading. Do you have RealPlayer, Quick Time, or iTunes on your computer? Yes, they need updating too. Alternative browsers like Firefox, Chrome, and Safari are on the list. Add e-mail programs like Mozilla Thunderbird and Incredimail. Printer software, Support software from your computer manufacturer like HP Advisor and Dell Support Center, graphics programs like Photoshop....the list is endless.

So how do you determine which update requests to allow? One way is to open the Control Panel and choose "Add Remove Programs" in XP or "Programs and Features" in Vista and Windows 7. Become familiar with the list of programs installed on the computer. (If you can't remember all of them, at least you have a preference.) If one of these programs requests an update (a popup or notification in the lower right hand corner of the screen), the answer is "Yes, thank you for keeping me current."

Some of the programs aren't so accommodating. Many can be manually updated by choosing "Check for Updates" under "Help" on the program's menu. There may also be a choice under "Options" (Settings, Properties, or some such wording) to automate the process.

There is a website that can help you decide. [Http://secunia.com](http://secunia.com) has an online scanner (use "Scan now" in the upper right corner, "Start Scanner" on the next page, and check "Enable thorough system inspection" on the next page before you hit "Start") that will look at your system and list insecure programs. You can also download Secunia Personal Software Inspector (PSI) free for home users.

<http://filehippo.com> is a source for many of the freeware and shareware programs we use (Adobe Reader, iTunes, Firefox, Open Office, AVG Antivirus, etc). You can download their free Update Checker which will also help keep you up to date with the latest versions of that type of software.



A Free Apple a Day Keeps the Doctor Away

By Larry Anders, Member, Tampa PCUG, Florida
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I had been highly opposed to Apple products for years because of what I feel to be the small-mindedness of Steve Jobs and the Apple management by not making their code available to developers, which would allow software to be developed so there would be more choice at reasonable prices. If so, I'm sure there would be a Mac in my house instead of just seven PCs running various Windows operating systems.

Above, you'll notice I said "had" been. Then I purchased my first iPod, and I was hooked! I did not get the first version iPhone, but I have had the 3GS now for almost two years. It is about the 10th cell phone I've owned and by far the very best. I have been tempted to try an Android phone but so far have had no reason to give up the iPhone. The Apps for the iPhone make it an everyday challenge to find something useful,





and typically for free. Why Mr. Jobs can't see that allowing all these people to develop software for the iPod/iPhone/iPad has made his products extremely successful is beyond my understanding. He has still kept control by not allowing anything to be installed except through the iTunes App Store. Even the free Apps. If something similar was allowed for the Mac, I think he would see the popularity of the Mac increase also. I just can't validate paying twice the price for software just because it's a Mac. It's good, but not that good.

For Christmas I was given an iPad by my wife and kids. Now, you want to talk about what I think is the best invention of the 21st century. Since December, I use my PCs at least 50% less. My iPad sits next to me on the couch when it is not in my hand. Email, Messenger and text messaging is with me now wherever I am, between the iPad and iPhone. The two are very similar, but the 9" screen on the iPad is much easier to read and work with.



The iPad comes with several built-in Apps, such as Calendar (to track your appointments), Notes (to keep lists of things), Maps (complete Google maps), Videos (to watch your favorite videos), YouTube, iTunes, App Store and Games. They also include Safari (Apple's Internet browser), Email, Photos (access to your photos, graphics and screen captures), iPod (for music) and Contacts. That's plenty to keep you going until you learn how to start downloading some of the thousands of Apps available, with more coming every day. If you're into anything, there is probably an App for it. Also, there are free Internet music-streaming sites that will allow you to listen to any kind of music whenever you want, with no hiccups.

The battery is excellent. With my constant use, I still get two to three days between charges, and the recharge is very fast.

Apple has also released iBooks, which will probably be a permanent fixture in the next iOS upgrade. In my opinion, it's one of the better (free) eBooks reader programs. If you're used to using Kindle, Google or any of the other readers, there is an App out there for that, too. I downloaded a free App the other day that makes 23,469 classic books available at your tap. And I did say free.



One App I especially like is the Dragon Speaking App, for both the iPhone and the iPad. There is no need to type. Just start the App, push Record and start talking. It recognizes when you stop, allows you to insert commas, periods and new paragraphs. When you're done with the dictation, tap Copy, then paste it wherever you want, or tap Email and it will send it directly into your email. Oh yeah, did I mention it was free?!

The iPad does not come with a text program, like the iPhone, but there are several free Apps that will take care of this problem. I use one that I am more than happy to pay for but

see no reason to do so as the developers do not ask me to. There is a small nonintrusive ad area in the lower left corner and that's it. The same with Messenger.

I am currently using Dragon Speaking with a free App called Documents to create this article. Documents allows you to review and edit Word and Excel documents. I wouldn't expect to be able to work on some gigantic files. I expect a version of Word and Excel to be out soon, assuming Apple will allow a Microsoft App to infiltrate their domain.

Another thing I am really pleased with are Apps available for our younger computer users. My daughter and son-in-law both have iPads, so my 5-year-old granddaughter is well-versed on using the iPad. I typically get her to teach me some secret thing when she comes over on the weekends. I spent a lot of money for the overhead movie system in my Tahoe for her to be able to watch movies, etc., when we are in the car. Lately, though, she would rather have my iPad while we are driving around. There are some excellent educational Apps (free, of course) that help teach her to read, do math, draw and all sorts of other things.



In any case, as I have thanked Bill Gates and the team at Microsoft in the past for making computing enjoyable with Windows, I now need to thank Steve Jobs and the gang at Apple for heading in a new direction and once again making computing enjoyable. I can't wait for the 22nd century to get here!



Sent from Larry's iPad.



That's all.....