

Windows XP Features and Frustrations

Fox Hill Farm

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Dick Scott

Types of Software

- Operating Systems (DOS, Windows9x, ME, XP, MacOSX)
 - Instructions to the computer CPU on how to manage and communicate with:
 - keyboard, screen, disks, USB ports, printers, mouse, speakers, memory etc.
- Programs (Applications)
 - Instructions to the Operating System on how to do specific tasks
 - eg Word, Excel, Internet Explorer

History of Microsoft Operating Systems

Year	Operating System	Memory Required	Hardware Support Features
1981	DOS 1	64K	Floppy , 300bps modem
1982	DOS 2	640K	Hard Disk, 1200bps
1988	Win3.1(DOS4)	1 MB	Mouse, Printers, Color
1995	Win 95(DOS7)	4 MB	Networking, 2 GB Hard
1998	Win 98	32 MB	USB, 32 GB Hard
2000	Win ME	64 MB	USB include Drivers
2001	Win XP	128 MB	CDRW, True Plug n Play

Windows XP Options

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Full</u>	<u>Upgrade</u>
XP Home	\$199	\$99
OEM Price	\$87	
XP Professional	\$299	\$199
OEM Price	\$135	

Some Features Of Windows XP

- **Clock Synchronization**
- **Automated Transfer** of Setup and Files
- **System Restore**
- True **Plug 'n Play**
- Program **Compatibility**
- **Photo Viewer**
- **CD Writer**
- **Diagnostics**
- **Firewall (ICF)**
- **Windows Movie Maker**
- **NTFS File Management**

Alternatives to Some Windows XP Features

- **Clock Synchronization** *Atomic Clock**
- **System Restore** *GoBack*
- **Photo Viewer** *Irfanview**
» *Picasa**
- **CD Writer** *Nero*
- **Diagnostics** *Norton*
- **Firewall** *Zone Alarm**

*Freeware

Frustrations with XP

- More Memory Needed (128-256 MB)
- More Hard Drive Needed
- Microsoft Product Activation Needed
- Some Existing Hardware won't work
 - Printers
 - Scanners
- Some Older Software Versions won't work
 - Norton
 - Partition Magic
- Frequent “Upgrades” Needed (Free)

File Systems

DOS 5	Fat 16		
Win95(OEM2)	Fat 16		
Win 98	Fat 16	Fat 32	
Win ME	Fat 16	Fat 32	
Win 2000	Fat 16	Fat 32	NTFS
Win XP	Fat 16	Fat 32	NTFS

Capacity

2GB

128 GB

262 TB

Effect of Cluster Size

(FAT32 Typical File Sizes)

<u>Partition</u>	<u>Cluster Size</u>	<u>Wasted</u>
• 256MB-8GB	4K	4%
• 8-18GB	8K	10%
• 16-32GB	16K	25%
• 32+GB	32K	40%

Recommendations

- Win 95 Users
 - Hold out for a new machine with XP
- Win 98 and Win ME Considerations
 - Larger hard drive
 - Multiple partitions
 - Set Up Dual Boot to XP
 - Set Up NTFS on at least one partition
- Win XP Users
 - Convert to NTFS
 - Update Frequently

Recommendations (cont)

- Re-name CD Drives “R” or “W”
- Install a Second Hard Drive (same size)
- Set up Multiple Partitions
 - C: Operating System
 - D: Applications
 - E: Data
 - F: Back-up or “Scratch Pad”

References

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 - 7/02, 11/02, 6/03, 7/04
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- Microsoft
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- www.powerquest.com (Now Symantec)
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