

# Larry's newsLETTER



## Wireless Connectivity Issues

You may experience connectivity issues or performance issues when you connect a mobile PC that is running Windows Vista or Windows 7 to a wireless access point.

### Method 1: Connect the mobile PC to a power source

When you plug the mobile PC into a power source, Windows Vista or Windows 7 switches the wireless network adapter power setting in the default power plan from the Medium Power Save setting to the Maximum Performance setting. This turns off the 802.11 power save mode.

### Method 2: Modify the default power saving power plan

Modify the default on-battery power setting for the wireless network adapter. Configure the wireless network adapter to use the **Maximum Performance** setting when Windows Vista or Windows 7 is configured to use the **Balanced** power plan or the **Power saver** power plan. To do this, follow these steps:

Click **Start** type **Power Options** in the **Start Search** box, and then click **Power Options** in the **Programs** list. If you are prompted for an administrator password or confirmation, type your password or click **Continue**.

1. Click **Change plan settings** under the power plan that is selected. For example, if the **Balanced** option is selected, click **Change plan settings** under **Balanced**.
2. Click **Change advanced power settings**.
3. In the **Power Options** dialog box, expand **Wireless Adapter Settings**, and then expand **Power Saving Mode**.

In the list that appears next to **On battery**, click **Maximum Performance**, and then click **OK**.

### Method 3: Use the "High performance" power plan

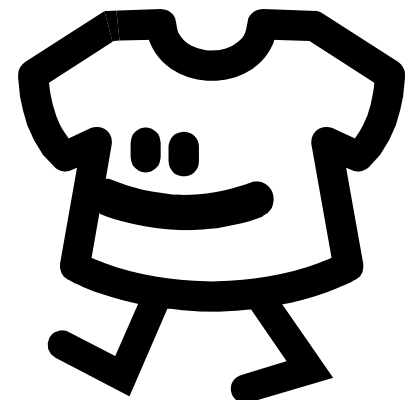
If the computer is running on a power plan other than the **High performance** power plan when you connect to a wireless network, manually change the power plan to **High performance**. To do this, follow these steps:

Click **Start**, type **Power Options** in the **Start Search** box, and then click **Power Options** in the **Programs** list. If you are prompted for an administrator password or confirmation, type your password or click **Continue**. **Note** You can also right-click the battery icon in the notification area to access the **Power Options** command.

1. Click **High performance**.

## Techie Term: Thread

What do a t-shirt and a computer program have in common? They are both composed of many threads! While the threads in a t-shirt hold the shirt together, the threads of a computer program allow the program to execute sequential actions or many actions at once. Each thread in a program identifies a process that runs when the program asks it to (unlike when you ask your roommate to do the dishes).



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## This Months Quotes:

"A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks that others have thrown at him."

*David Brinkley*

## How to: Using the New Windows 7 Features

### How to change the default folder icon in Windows 7

Don't like the dull yellow folder icon that represents folders in Windows 7? If you prefer to use a prettier, custom icon for your folders, here's how:

1. Log on as an administrator.
2. Click Start and in the Search box, type **regedit** and press Enter.
3. At the UAC prompt, click Yes.
4. In the left pane of the registry editor, navigate to:  
HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer
5. Right click Explorer in the left pane and click New | Key
6. Name the new key Shell Icons and press Enter
7. Double click Shell Icons and in the right pane, right click an empty space.
8. Click New | String Value.
9. Name the new string value 3 and press Enter.
10. Right click the new value 3 and click Modify.
11. In the Edit String dialog box, type the full path to the custom icon that you want to use as the default folder icon, and click OK (Note: this must be a 256x256 pixel .ico file).
12. Close the registry editor.
13. You'll need to log off and log back on to apply

## Microsoft: Blu-Ray is NOT the "Future of Home Entertainment"

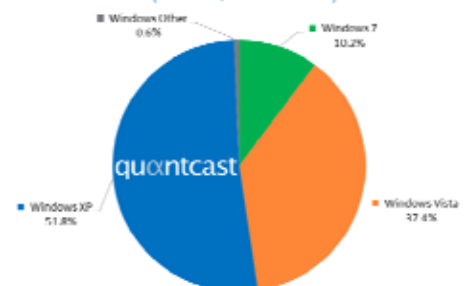
According to CVG, Microsoft strongly believes that 'digital media', and not Blu-Ray, is the "future of home entertainment". Ever since HD DVD gave up and backed out of the 'next-gen' format, there have always been rumors of Microsoft potentially releasing a Blu-Ray drive add-on. The Blu-Ray drive would help to increase its media playback capabilities, as well as possibly creating games using the Blu-Ray discs for more space to work around, thereby playing on the same field as the PlayStation 3.

However, it seems no matter how much people talk about how Xbox 360 needs a Blu-Ray drive, Microsoft will not allow it and instead, continue with their ways of stating how digital media will take over physical media. Recent comments from game developers, including Capcom, have stated that they've had to cut content out from Xbox 360 versions of their games (including Lost Planet 2) because of the size restrictions of the aging DVD format.

Director of Xbox and Entertainment at Microsoft Stephen Gill told CVG, "We have no plans to adopt [a] Blu-Ray drive for the Xbox 360. In fact, the future of home entertainment started last autumn when Xbox 360 became the first and only console to offer instant-on 1080p streaming HD movies."

Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer left many guessing earlier on in the week, when he hinted that there will be revised models of the Xbox 360 coming "in the future". So what do you guys think these 'revised' Xbox 360 models will include? Blu-Ray? Natal?

Windows Versions Share of Web Consumption  
(Jan 2010, North America)



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## Is your computer ready for the upgrade to Windows 7?

The minimum requirements to install Windows 7 are as follows:

- 1 gigahertz (GHz) or faster 32-bit (x86) or 64-bit (x64) processor
- 1 gigabyte (GB) RAM (32-bit) or 2 GB RAM (64-bit)
- 16 GB available hard disk space (32-bit) or 20 GB (64-bit)
- DirectX 9 graphics device with WDDM 1.0 or higher driver



Although Office 2010 doesn't bring a radically different look or new file formats, as Office 2007 did, it introduces a number of changes, most significantly

the addition of companion Office Web apps that work in a browser. Also, for the first time, Office will come in both 32-bit and 64-bit versions.

It is expected that office 2010 will be released to Businesses in May and to Consumers In June.

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