

Larry's newsLETTER

How to make your laptop last for years.

- ⇒ Discharge your battery to at least 40% before charging. If you are leaving your ac adapter in the computer all the time remove the battery. This will prevent your battery from being destroyed.
- ⇒ Use canned air to remove dust from your laptop fans every few months.
- ⇒ Clean your screens with a 50% water to isopropyl alcohol mix this will remove finger prints smears etc.
- ⇒ Keep away from bath tubs, or any other water, pop, coffee, alcohol or liquid source.
- ⇒ When plugged into the power, place the ac adapter out of the way so you do not trip on it, knocking the laptop to the floor.
- ⇒ Place the laptop in a stable place when viewing. It is best to not lay directly on a bed or couch. Keep the air vents clear of papers or bedding etc.

Computer Viruses, Worms And Trojans Explained

Fighting viruses and getting rid of them is big business right now. The first step is knowing just what the enemy is.

THE ENEMY - Hackers and Crackers

Computer geeks say that there is a difference between hackers and crackers. Crackers do damage to systems they break into while hackers just want to see how everything works. We'll use the more common term of hacker. Originally the term hacker was someone who made furniture with the use of an axe.

A virus is "malware" for your computer. This is a term that covers all kinds of software that is malicious. The most common types of malware are Trojans, worms, and viruses.

VIRUSES



Techie Term:

Defrag

Short for: defragmentation. To optimize your hard drive, usually with a program that "cleans it up" and makes it run as smoothly as possible.

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Viruses are often hidden inside of other programs, for example installation programs that arrive to you through email attachments. When you run this host program the virus is executed. When the virus is in your computer memory it will be able to do a lot of damage such as infecting other computer programs.

Once the infection phase of the virus is complete the next stage begins: the destructive phase. Viruses will wait for a certain trigger, such as a date or the number of times that the virus has been copied, before the payload is delivered. The payload can be as simple as messages all the way to the deletion of files to the destruction of your operating system.

When viruses were first created they were often distributed on a floppy disk. As the Internet has grown, email and file downloads are the best way for viruses to be passed. Email can have attachments that can contain any type of computer file. Executable files can be loaded with viruses and therefore you shouldn't run them unless you're sure that they are virus free.

WORMS

Worms are much like viruses because they are self-copying. They can reproduce across multiple networks without human aid, such as through the sending of emails. Worms, however, don't need an executable program in order to be passed along.

A worm can affect a computer network more than it can infect computers that are on that network. Because they self-copy they can overload the resources on a network. This can cause slow downs in the speed of data transfers by using a large amount of bandwidth...more bandwidth than is needed for normal network traf-



This Months Quotes:

Home computers are being called upon to perform many new functions, including the consumption of homework formerly eaten by the dog.

~Doug Larson



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Larry The Computer Guy

**5307 Carroll Lake Rd
Commerce MI 48382
248-360-8967**

fic. Any network that routes traffic on the Internet is simply known as software and hardware that is specialized. Both software and hardware can be bothered by malware.

A worm can be created to carry payloads by using an installation program through the backdoor. A backdoor is an access point into the computer that is hidden. The worm uses the backdoor and ignores the usual procedure for login. Backdoors are often used by spammers so that they can send junk email.

TROJAN HORSES

A Trojan horse is another kind of malware. A Trojan horse is a computer program that acts as though it will do one thing when it will actually do something different. This term comes from the story of Troy, a city which was deceived by the Greeks to get into the inner city undetected. A Trojan horse can't replicate itself the way viruses and worms can.

A Trojan horse can be hidden in software that is otherwise useful. When a Trojan horse starts it can do such things as corrupt files, install backdoors, erase data, and keep track of keystrokes. This information will enable hackers to steal your personal information such as passwords and credit card numbers.

*Gleened from coputervisushub.info

Treat your password like your toothbrush. Don't let anybody else use it, and get a new one every six months. ~Clifford Stoll

Hardware: the parts of a computer that can be kicked. ~Jeff Pesis

There is a computer disease that anybody who works with computers knows about. It's a very serious disease and it interferes completely with the work. The trouble with computers is that you 'play' with them! ~Richard P. Feynman

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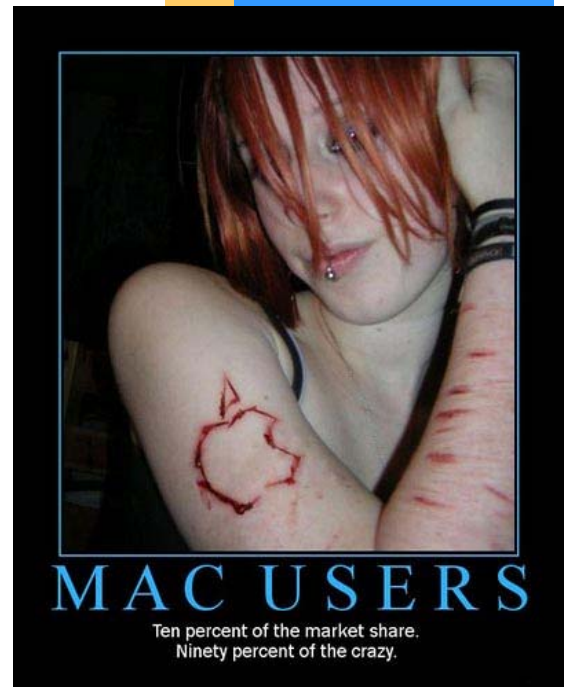
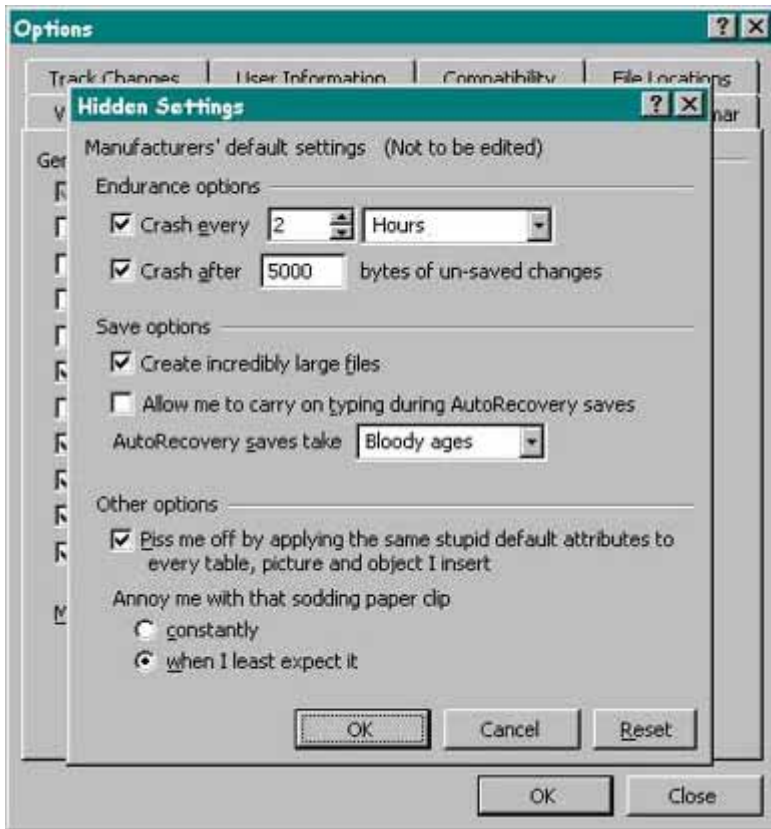


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Larry The Computer Guy
5307 Carroll Lake Rd
Commerce MI 48382
248-360-8967

PC and MAC Jokes.



Computers must be female. No one but the creator understands their internal logic. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else. The message "Bad command or file name" is about as informative as, "If you don't know why I'm mad at you, then I'm certainly not going to tell you." Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for later retrieval. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

~Author Unknown

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**Why is it drug addicts
and computer aficionados
are both called users?**

Clifford Stoll



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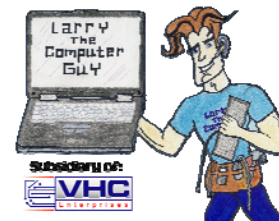
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