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Next Meeting

**Wednesday 2nd November
2011
7 PM**

**Followed by an exchange of
information about
Computers**

Newstream Articles

Deadline : 10 Days before Meeting

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Membership

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Printed & Posted Newsletter \$20 extra

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LCG COMMITTEE

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Vice President: Janet Headlam
Minutes Secretary: Iris Meek
Treasurer: Laraine Rist
Assistant Treasurer Open
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PC Librarian: Julie Hjort
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OPEN Co-ordinator: Robert Tierney
Webmaster/Content: Tom Olsen
Auditor: Ron Baker
"VICTOR" Co-Ordinator: Robert Tierney
Liason Officer Eleanor Horder
General Committee: Glenn Gilpin,
Reinhard von Samorz Harvey Tavener
Barry Symonds

OPEN Committee 2011

Chairperson	June Hazzlewood
Co-ordinator	Rob Tierney
Vice Chairperson	Rob Tirney
Minute Secretary	Eleanor Horder
Treasurer	Laraine Ridst
Assistant Treasurer	Open
O Learn Co-ordinator	Eleanor Horder
Tutor Co-ordinator	E Horder
Assist Treas.	Laraine Rist
Membership Co-ord.	K Wicks
Newsletter Editor	qIris Meek
Publicity	I Meek
Committee:	Heather Loffell,
	Marie Cleaver, Kay Dawson, Irmgard
	Rosenfeldt, Pauline Hardy, Sandra
	Viney, Janet Headlam

OPEN NEWSLETTER – OCT–NOV 2011

Coordinators Corner

First off I would like to thank everyone who helped and or participated in Seniors Week this year. This year attendances were more from members than non members which is not a bad thing because it's great for people to get together with others they may not see from other classes during the year. We had approximately 70 people come through during senior's week. O.P.E.N also celebrated a major milestone celebrating our 10th Birthday.

Thank you to the speakers, hosts, helpers and students who attended, these events continue to be successful because of YOU don't forget this is your club without you we would not exist.

The year is drawing quickly to a close this month the bookings for the Christmas dinner which will be held again at Sunnyhill at Ravenswood will open on Friday the 4th of November and close December the 5th. The lunch will be on Monday the 19th December at 12pm.

This year we will be trialling a ticketing system, before the day of the lunch you will receive a ticket you must bring that ticket with you on the day if you do not have a ticket you will be unable to attend the lunch. Seating is limited to 80 people.

If you loose your ticket don't worry we will have a spare with your name on it.

The timetable from now till the start of 2012.
Membership Renewal from 1st December 2011

O.P.E.N closes for Christmas break Friday December 16th 2011 –
Break up morning tea

Christmas Lunch Monday 19th Sunnyhill Ravenswood 12pm

Summerschool Monday 9th January –Friday 20th January (No
Wednesday class during Summerschool)

O.P.E.N recommences regular classes Monday 23rd
January 2012 (Date for start of Wednesdays to be
advised)

O.P.E.N Annual General Meeting Wednesday 1st
February 1pm

Beginners classes recommences Monday 6th February
2012

With all that said till the Christmas edition, happy
computing

Rob
:o)



VICTOR TELEPHONE NUMBER

Help for members **0408 174235**



FAMILY HISTORY ON-LINE

October 26 10—noon
November 16 10—noon
November 23 10—noon

Judy and Co show you how you can access and research
your ancestry.

Contact the club for more information
Classes are limited to 8 people.

BASIC GRAPHICS

Please register at the club to find if there are
places available for this popular class.

The dates for the next classes are :
Nov 9 10—noon
Dec 14 -TBA

TUTORS MEETING

Eleanor would like to see as many
tutors as possible turn up for the
last Tutors Meeting for 2011.

A chance to meet fellow tutors
and exchange ideas.

Wednesday Nov 19 1pm

Bring some food to share.

OPEN NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2011

LCG Committee 2011

President: Ivan Turmine

Vice President: Janet Headlam

Minutes Secretary: Iris Meek

Treasurer: Laraine Rist

MAC Librarians: Ivan Turmine

PC Librarian: Julie Hjort

[Newstream Editor: Ron Baker](#)

Publicity Officer: Iris Meek

Ass. Publicity Officer: - open -

OPEN Coordinator: Robert Tierney

[Webmaster/Content: Tom Olsen](#)

Auditor: Ron Baker

"VICTOR" Coordinator: Robert Tierney

General Committee: Judy Hall, Glenn Gilpin,

OPEN Committee 2011

Chairperson	June Hazzlewood
Co-ordinator	Rob Tierney
Vice Chairperson	Rob Tierney
Minute Secretary	Eleanor Horder
O Learn Co-ordinator	Eleanor Horder
Tutor Co-ordinator	E Horder
Membership Coord.	Karia Wicks
Newsletter Editor	Iris Meek
VICTOR Coord.	Rob Tierney
Publicity	I Meek
Committee:	Marie Cleaver,

VENUE TELEPHONE NUMBER

The club telephone is available during class hours.

10am –3 pm

6343 4928



REMINDER

BOTH LCG AND OPEN
WILL HOLD ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETINGS EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR..
PLEASE CONSIDER TAKING A TURN ON ONE OR BOTH OF THE
COMMITTEES

Jargon Buster

Back up: The process of copying important files and documents from hard disk to removable media.

USB: Universal Serial Bus. A standard that allows quick and easy connection of external peripherals such as storage devices to your PC. Devices can be added or removed while the PC is still switched on.

MICROSOFT FIXIT

While trying to install one of the new Microsoft programs at the club, installer problems were experienced.

An approach to

<http://support.microsoft.com/fixit/>

Came up trumps...

A handy website to read about.

OPEN Session Times
 At Studioworks, 1 Pipeworks Rd, L'ton
Standard Sessions \$5.00

OPEN NEWSLETTER – Oct– Nov 2011

SPECIAL WEDNESDAY SESSIONS
 Please register on the sheets – numbers may be limited

			Date	Time	Topic	Details
Monday	10 am –12	General & Beginners				
	1 pm – 3 pm	Beginners & PC Support				
Tuesday	10 am –12	P C Support & Beginner + Mac				
	1 pm – 3 pm	As above	Nov 2	10 am—12	Graphics Workshop	Laraine, Sandra, Karia & helpers
	7 pm—9 pm	PC Support (Night Class)		1 pm—	OPEN MEETING	Finalise Christmas arrangements
Wednesday	10 am—noon	Special sessions or Meetings				
	1 pm—3 pm	As for mornings (see rosters)	Nov 9	10 am—12	Basic Graphics	Karia, Sandra & Laraine tutors.
				1:00—3 pm	Christmas Cards etc	Eleanor, Laraine & Sandra
Thursday	10 am –12	General & Beginners	Nov 16	10 am—noon	Family History online	Judy, Margaret, Laraine & Sandra
	1 pm – 3 pm	General & Beginners		1 pm— 3.00	TUTORS MEETING	Coordinator Eleanor Horder
			Nov 23	10 am –noon	Family History online	Judy and the tutors get you started...
Friday	10 am –12	General & Beginners		1 pm—3 pm	PSP X1 Graphics	Judy, Eleanor, Sandra & Laraine
	1 pm—3 pm	Beginners	Nov 30	10 am—noon	TBA	Watch Registration sheet
				1 pm—3pm	TBA	Watch registration sheet
			Dec 7	10 til noon 1 pm— 1 pm—3 pm	Graphics Workshop OPEN MEETING	

Making Christmas Cards and stationery

SPECIAL using graphics and your own photographs or clip art.

Making special cards for all your Family and friends



WEDNESDAY November 9
1 pm–3 pm

*Please Register
on sheet near
the desk.*

Maximum 12 students

OPEN NEWSLETTER – Oct-Nov 2011

LEVEL 2 & 3 GRAPHICS

With Paint Shop Pro 7 and 8

November 16 1 pm–3 pm

See Notice Board for classes in 2012

PC SUPPORT CLASSES

Are conducted at the club each Tuesday evening
7 pm–9 pm

Julie, Barry, Laraine and helpers

For those students unable to attend
during the daylight hours

GRAPHICS WORKSHOP

November 2 10 am–noon

December 7 10 am–noon

Register for 2012 now.

PSP X1

Advanced Graphics using PSP X1
Follows on from the basic and level 2 and 3
classes.

October 26 1 pm–3 pm

November 23 1 pm–3 pm

Family History Online

As classes for this year are fast
coming to an end, it is advisable
for
students to put their names on the
waiting list for 2012.
Classes resume January 25
10 until noon

November 2011 Roster
 OPEN COMPUTING & LAUNCESTON COMPUTER GROUP

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 am to 12 noon	Beginners/ PC Support	PC and Mac Support Beginners/	Second Step Tuition <i>Please Register on Board</i>	Beginners/PC Support	Beginners/PC Support
	LARAINÉ KARIA HEATHER TONY JENNY	ROB ELEANOR TOM JENNY TONY SANDRA V <u>SANDRA W</u> <u>(MAC)</u> REINHARD, IVAN & MAURICE	WEEK 1 NOV 2 GRAPHICS W'SHOP WEEK 2 NOV 9 BASIC GRAPHICS WEEK 3 NOV 16 FAMILY HISTORY WEEK 4 NOV 23 FAMILY HISTORY WEEK 5 NOV 30 TBA WEEK 1 DEC 7 GRAPHICS W'SHOP	JUNE KARIA JENNY TOM DAVID TONY	ROB ROBIN B JENNY
	Up to 12	Up to 12	Judy, Eleanor, Karia, Laraine, Sandra, Margaret, Iris	Up to 12	Up to 12
12 noon to 1 pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1 pm to 3 pm	Beginners and PC Support	Beginners and PC & MAC Support	Second Step Tuition (1 to 3:00 pm)	Beginners and PC Support	O Learn
	Laraine Karia Heather Tony Jenny	Rob Eleanor Tony Tom Sandra W. Jenny <u>(Mac)</u> Reinhard	WEEK 1 Nov 2 OPEN Meeting WEEK 2 Nov 9 Christmas Cards WEEK 3 Nov 16 TUTORS MEETING WEEK 4 Nov 23 PSP XI WEEK 5 Nov 30 TBA WEEK 1 Dec 7 OPEN Meeting	June Tom Karia Tony Jenny	Robert Bruce Eleanor
3.30-5.30	Up to 12	Up to 12	Judy, Karia, Laraine, Sandra V, Margaret Robin, Iris, Eleanor and Tony	Up to 12	
Evening	3.30 – 5.30 O Learn Robert	 JULIE, BARRY, LARAINÉ and Dennis	LCG Meeting Nov 2 at 7.00 pm Followed by Workshop "How to ?"	3.30 – 5.30 O Learn Robert	

Venue telephone : 03 6343 4928 between 10 and 3 class days only. (No Messages please)

VICTOR Co-ordinator : Robert Tierney
0408 174 235 .

Tutors A.H.: Eleanor Horder 6343 1153 or 0408 384053, Karia Wicks 63445021 or 0419 150261, Tom Olsen 0419 563035

L.C.G.

Wednesday October 5 2011

Held at Studio Works

1 Pipeworks Road Sth Launceston

Meeting opened at 7.15 with President Ivan Turmine in the chair.

Attendance: Glenn Gilpin, Barry Symons, Ivan Turmine, Reinhard vonSamorzewski, Iris Meek, Janet Headlam, Dennis Murray, Ted Bramich, Laraine Rist.

Apologies: June and Bert Hazzlewood, Ron Baker, Julie Hjort, Tom Olsen, Judy Hall, Eleanor Horder, Pauline Hardy.

Minutes of last meeting: Accepted as read – moved Janet/Laraine. Car.

Business arising: Glenn Gilpin had been omitted from attendee's last meeting.

Correspondence: Bank Statement, Telstra Account, Seniors Week literature.

Financial Report: as presented at OPEN. Moved it be received and accounts ratified for payment by Laraine/Janet. Car.

Copy in Minute Book.

Moved Laraine/Ted that Iris registration fee for ASCCA Conference is met by club. Car.

General Business:

Rob Tierney has everything in order for the rest of Seniors Week, including 10th Birthday of OPEN celebrations Friday.

A person from Cota came in Wednesday 5th to take some photos for future publications. Laraine attended her.

Next meeting November 2 at 7.00.

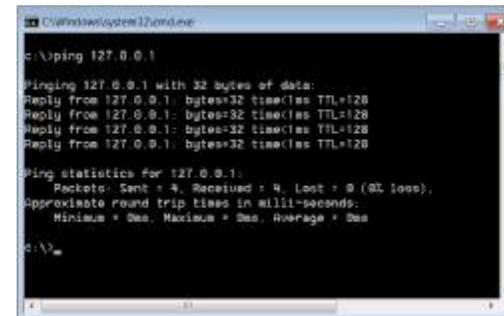
Meeting closed 7.45 and was followed by general discussion on computer problems etc. over a cuppa.

Talking Tech: Troubleshooting Network Connectivity

Setting up a home or small business network has gotten easier with each version of Windows, but regardless of whether you have XP, Vista or Windows 7 systems (or a mixture), you may sometimes encounter problems connecting to the other computers on the local network or to the Internet. Network problems can be frustrating and difficult to track down, but with some time and patience you can usually figure out where the problem originates. IT professionals are trained to follow a standard troubleshooting procedure, and so should you. Performing the steps in order ensure that you won't forget to check this or that important possibility.

The logical place to start is with the physical layer. Is the Ethernet cable plugged in or the wi-fi switch on your laptop turned on? More than once I've had computer users come to me, unable to "see" any wireless networks, only to find that they had turned off wireless (usually in response to flight attendants' instructions to turn off electronics on a plane) and forgotten to turn it back on. Depending on your device, wireless may be disabled by a hardware switch and/or through the software (for example, "airplane mode"). Also check your router or switch to ensure that it's plugged in and lights are on. Cheap switches sometimes die suddenly, leaving your network dead in the water.

Next, network troubleshooters traditionally use the PING command to check for connectivity on a TCP/IP network. At the command line (cmd.exe), type ping 127.0.0.1 to send four small packets of data (using the ICMP protocol) to your own machine. If this doesn't work and you don't get a response (in the form of "Reply from ..." as shown in the figure), the problem is with the TCP/IP stack on your computer. You might need to change, repair or reset the TCP/IP configuration or if you use DHCP you get an IP address automatically, you might need to renew your IP address.



If you get a response when you ping your machine, next trying pinging a computer on your local network, either by IP address or by its computer name. If the packets come back properly, your local connection is good. If you get some "Request timed out" responses along with reply responses, you may have problems somewhere on the network. If all is well here, ping the IP address of your router or default gateway (this is the device that connects your network to the

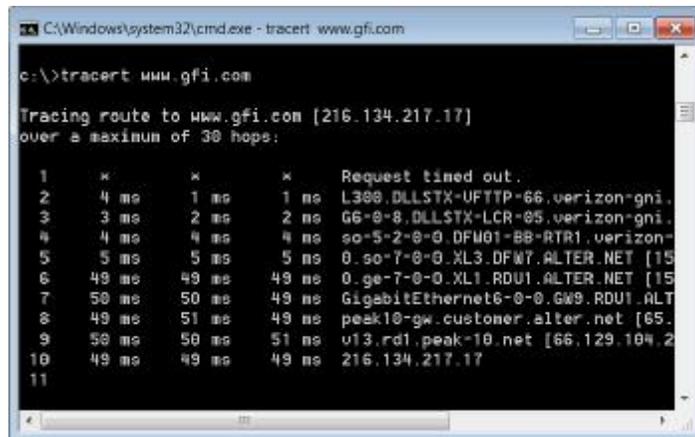
(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Internet). If that works, ping a known IP address or host name that's outside your network (on the Internet). This could be a web server (host name www.domainname.com). However, be aware that some popular sites (such as www.microsoft.com) block ICMP packets for security reasons, so you won't get a response from them.

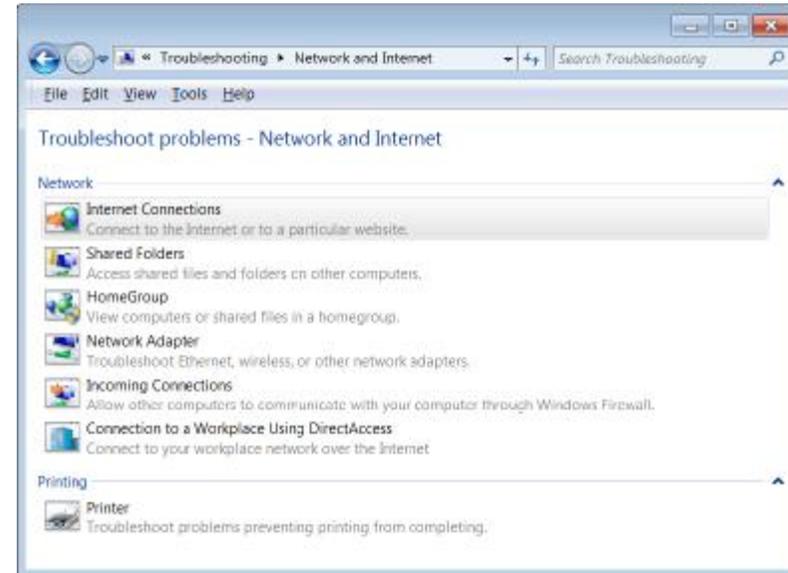
If you're unable to ping any outside computers by name, but you can ping them by IP address, you might have a DNS problem. DNS servers match the friendly host names that we humans use (for example, in a URL) to the IP address that actually directs the packets sent by your computer to the proper destination. If you have the wrong DNS server entered in your TCP/IP configuration, or the DNS server you use has gone down, you won't be able to connect to other computers by their host names. Most home users are assigned a DNS server(s), along with an IP address, by their ISPs. However, if you know the IP address of another working DNS server, you may be able to manually change that setting in your computer's TCP/IP properties if the ISP's DNS server goes down.

You can use the Traceroute utility to track down connectivity problems between your computer and another computer on the Internet. At the command line, type `tracert` where the computer name is the name of the destination computer. This will send packets and return output showing how long it takes the packet to travel between each "hop" (router to router) along the way. Slowdowns at particular points (indicated by a higher number of milliseconds) can indicate hardware problems or heavy network traffic at those points.



Note that connectivity problems can also be caused by your firewall settings or the settings on your router or gateway device. You can temporarily disable your firewall on your computer or turn off the firewall on your router (or a hardware network firewall, if you have one) to test this. Be aware, though, that this exposes you to security risks so it should be for testing only.

Windows 7 includes a number of built-in tools for detecting and diagnosing network problems. In Control Panel, go to the Network and Sharing Center and click Troubleshooting (in Classic View). Then click Network and Internet. This will show you seven different automated troubleshooters aimed at problems with Internet connectivity, shared folders, HomeGroups, network adapters, incoming connections, and DirectAccess (on Windows 7 Enterprise or Ultimate edition) and printers.



Figuring out where your connectivity problems originate is important, because then you know whether it's something you can fix yourself (a problem with your hardware or your software settings), a problem with your ISP (in which case you need to give them a call) or a problem on the other end of the connection (about which you probably won't be able to do much other than wait). If you use your home network for business (telecommuting, running your own business, etc.), and you rely on your Internet connection to get your work done, it's worth investing in a second Internet connection plan for backup. One solution, in a pinch, is to use your smart phone's Internet connection by either using the mobile hotspot feature that comes with many of today's phones or by using an app such as EZTether to connect your computer to your phone via USB (There are a number of tethering apps for Android phones; I like this one because it doesn't require you to root your phone).

Tell us how you go about diagnosing network connectivity problems. Do you find that easier in

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some versions of Windows than others? Do you use Windows 7's troubleshooting wizards, or stick with the "old school" methods? Do you have a backup plan (or two) in case your primary Internet connection goes down? Let us know what you think by participating in our forum or email me.

Point of View: Bigger isn't always better and you don't always get what you pay for. I've been to many IT conferences over the years and each has its own particular flavor and feel. The "regulars" - those I keep going back to - include TechEd, CES, the Microsoft MVP Summit, Black Hat/Defcon and now TechRepublic Live. I just got back from the latter (TRLive 2011), which has been held annually for the past three years in Louisville, Kentucky, where the TechRepublic headquarters are located.

As I reviewed the past week in my mind, I couldn't help comparing it to those other conferences, even though the TR staff is careful to note that it really shouldn't be called that. In fact, the afternoon sessions are even called "unconference" sessions because there's no presenter and no pre-selected topic. During the more structured morning talks, attendees write on the board the topics they'd like to learn more about, everyone votes on them, and then we split up into groups led by the folks who came up with the topics, and talk about it.

As Jason mentions in his blog post, the whole thing is really more like an up-close-and-personal, face-to-face visit to the TR web site than like a typical conference that involves hundreds of thousands of dollars in facilities rental, speaker fees and travel expenses, fancy audio-visual effects and expensive "swag" for attendees' gift bags. At Black Hat and Tech Ed, attendees are often lucky if they ever get close enough to the speakers to say "hello," since presenters are sequestered in a special speakers' room prior to their sessions, are up on a high dais far away from the audience in a huge room while they're speaking, and are busy packing up their gear and rushing off to do another session in another room after it's over.

With thousands of people in attendance, roaming throughout multiple floors of enormous hotel conference centers or city convention halls, good luck on running into any of those Internet friends of yours who are also there - somewhere. On the up side, you'll probably get lots of exercise as you run from one end of the convention center to the other between sessions.

Those other conferences are, to greater or lesser degrees, a show. They're also big businesses, spending and taking in huge piles of money each year. TR Live is more a labor of love. Soni Thompson somehow puts it all together while continuing to do her regular job as one of the webzine's editors. Speakers who receive four-figure "honorariums" and paid travel expenses to present at other conferences pay our own ways and give our talks in exchange for a couple of (very good!) free meals. But that's because attendees, who are expected to pay anywhere from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars to get in at those other events only have to sign up and show up to be admitted here.

For the morning presentations, everyone is together in the same room. Those of us who are up front doing the presentation for one session are sitting in the audience, learning and asking questions, for the other sessions. And we all mingle together during breaks, so attendees get a chance to ask presenters questions one-on-one, exchange contact information, and get to know each other. There are no superstars here - just a group of people who are enthusiastic about IT and enjoy sharing that enthusiasm with others. Many of those who attend are writers who publish in TR and elsewhere on a regular basis. Others are IT pros who read those articles and participate in the discussion forums. Some own their own IT-related businesses. Some don't have job titles that involve IT at all, but perform the IT tasks in addition to their other job duties in small businesses or local government agencies.

In my opinion, TR Live 2011 provided valuable information for attendees and for speakers in the form of feedback from the community and those in the IT "trenches," as well as a wonderful opportunity to network and just have a good time in a low-pressure situation. Interesting, despite the outstanding value, this year's TR Live didn't fill up. Or rather, it did - but then a number of people cancelled at the last minute. I can't help thinking that's because while many people greatly appreciate a gift that's given to them, there are some who just don't value something they don't have to pay for. Maybe they think if it's free, it's not worth much. Maybe they don't realize that event planners buy enough food, the size room, etc. for a certain number of people weeks or months in advance. Maybe they never considered that by reserving a spot and then not coming, they prevented someone else who wanted to come from getting that spot. Maybe some of them just had emergencies that made it impossible for them to honor their commitments.

I'm interested in what you think. If you go to IT conferences - or any kind of conferences - do you prefer small venues or big ones? Do you think you always "get what you pay for?" Or do you sometimes find that you get the most value from those that charge a minimal fee (or nothing)? What do you look for in a conference, anyway? Top name speakers? Lots of different topic tracks to choose from? Fancy facilities? Great food? Big organized after-hours activities? Please discuss this in our forum or email me.

'Til next week,

Deb Shinder, Editor WinNews

feedback@wxpnews.com

XP Tip of the Week: Reboot without losing your place

One of the most annoying things about Windows is what happens if you have to reboot - all your programs shut down and you lose your place in your work. Now that's annoying; however, there is a solution. If you're running XP SP3, you can use a little free program called CacheMyWork that will reopen your applications when Windows starts back up again. It's also been reported to work on Windows 7, but was written and tested for XP and Vista. You can find out more about it on the CodePlex CacheMyWork web site. I suggest that you install version 1.2, which is the current stable version, rather than the alpha that's also available.

Windows 7 Tip of the Week: How to repartition your disk

If you've been working with Windows for a long time, you probably remember using disk partitioning tools such as Partition Magic when you needed to create new partitions (drives) on your hard disk without formatting the disk and starting over. In Windows 7, you can do it without a third party program. Here's how: Click Start and in the search box, type diskmgmt.msc to open the Disk Management console.

Right click the volume you want to shrink in order to make free space out of which you can create a new partition.

Select Shrink Volume.

Enter the amount of space that you want to take away from the current disk. This is limited by the amount of free space on the disk. The dialog box tells you how much shrink space is available.

Click Shrink.

Now you can create a new partition in the newly unallocated space. To do, right click in the unallocated space and click New Simple Volume. This invokes the New Volume wizard, where you specify the size for the new volume, assign a drive letter, and format the partition.

Windows Phone 7 Tip of the Week: Get better battery life

Windows Phones, like all smartphones, never seems to have enough battery life. Here are some tips for conserving the battery and making your phone last longer between charges: Turn off location services (Settings|Location options). If you need to use them (for Bing Maps, geotagging photos, checking in, etc.), turn them back on temporarily and then off again.

Adjust the display settings. The screen eats up a large portion of the battery, so turning down the brightness and setting the screen to time out more quickly can significantly increase battery life. These are in the Settings menu.

Turn off unused networks. If you don't mind a bit of a hassle factor, you can stretch the battery out longer by turning off the 3G service when you aren't using data (when the phone is just sitting in your pocket for hours). You'll find this in Settings|Mobile Network. Likewise, if you're using 3G and not wi-fi, turn the latter off. And don't turn on Bluetooth unless you're actually using it.

Sync email less frequently. This is in Settings|Email & Accounts. Select the account and tap Download new content.

Don't tap What's new in the People and Pictures tiles. Your phone automatically syncs and updates these whenever you go to them.

Turn on Battery Saver in Settings. This turns off automatic sync of email and calendar (you can still sync manually), turns off push notifications for live tiles, doesn't allow apps to run in the background.

Put your phone to sleep, using the Power button.

Digging into How Windows 7 Libraries Work

If you've used Windows 7, you've almost certainly encountered the new Libraries feature - although if you used Windows Media Center in XP and Vista, the concept of libraries shouldn't be new to you. Libraries seem to be another of those features that you either love or hate, much like the Ribbon interface in the latest versions of Office. Some folks embrace it immediately, recognizing the big advantages of having the ability to quickly access distributed content from one central location in Explorer. Others write to me, pleading for a way to "turn off" the libraries features and make Explorer "normal" again.

If you like the libraries idea - or at least are curious to learn more before making a decision, this article explains the basics of how you use the libraries. What I want to talk about in this "deep dive" is where the libraries came from and what's going on "under the hood" with these very special types of folders - and then I'll provide a link telling you how to get rid of them if you still don't like them.

Here's the problem that Microsoft was trying to solve with libraries: Even though XP and Vista had those nice little default folders called My Documents, My Pictures, My Music, etc. that were part of each user's profile, many Windows users didn't store all their files of specific types there. Maybe it was because the partition wasn't big enough, maybe it was because they preferred to put their data on external drives that were easy to transfer to another machine, or maybe they just weren't paying attention when they saved the files. For whatever reasons, user data ended up being spread over different folders all over the computer or even on other computers on the network. Then when they wanted to find those files, they sometimes had to go on a long scavenger hunt.

Libraries let you continue to store your files in different folders, and still "see" them all in one place: the library. You define which folders (local and

remote) will be included in the library. Each library itself contains two physical file locations. One is the default folder such as My Documents or My Pictures that is automatically included in the library. The other is the Public folder for that file category. Note that a file type refers to the particular format indicated by the extension, such as a .jpg file. The file category refers to the kind of file, such as a graphics file, which could be one of many types (.jpg, .gif, .png, etc.).

The default folders (My Documents, etc.) in Vista were called "known folders" and they differed under the hood from these folders in XP. They are part of the user storage profile. Windows 7 still has these known folders; each is now part of the library of the same file category. A library looks like a folder to the user, but files aren't actually stored in the library itself; they're physically stored in the folders that belong to that library. The library monitors those folders so that when you add something to one of the folders, it's automatically also added to the library. Each library has a default save location, which is a real folder to which a file is saved if the user saves it to that library. You can change the default save location for a library to any folder that belongs to that library. The library itself is stored in Windows as an .xml file with the file extension ".library-ms" in the AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Libraries folder.

Libraries can make users' lives easier by giving you easy access to your files, no matter where they're really located. However, they can also be confusing if you don't know how they work, and they can add a layer of complexity for developers whose applications need to access those files. For those of you who would prefer not to deal with the libraries at all, here's an article that tells you how to disable and remove libraries from Windows Explorer. <http://www.mydigitallife.info/how-to-disable-and-remove-libraries-from-windows-7-explorer/>

"Til next week,
Deb Shinder, Contributing Editor

Getting the most from Windows Search — Part 2

By Woody Leonhard

In my Sept. 22 Woody's Windows column, I stepped you through the basics of searching in Windows 7 — in particular, Win7's two undocumented search idiosyncrasies that can cause no end of confusion.

In Part 2, I give you the advanced course, including how to search in Win7 the way you used to in Windows XP, Windows 95, or (gulp!) even DOS.

Search for filenames, the new old-fashioned way

Here's how most experienced Windows users get turned off by Windows 7's search: they click the Win7 Start orb, type something into the Search box, and wait while Windows comes back with results — first in bushels, then in barrels, and finally an avalanche. "Whoooooa!" (or something slightly less printable) they say, "I only wanted to find files with this text in the filename Windows 7 is useless; they've even included spam messages in here."

Yes, I still hear from old-timers who cluck-cluck-cluck that even DOS did it better.

Typing text into the Windows 7 search box is a bit like sticking a straw into an open fire hydrant. As I recommended in Part 1, if you have any idea where the text you seek may be located, you're far better off going to that location (with Windows Explorer, say, or Outlook, or Live Mail) and starting the search from that folder or one above it. Yes, Windows indexes spam messages — which is to say, mail in your Junk Mail folder — and it'll bring up the junk if you give it enough time. Nothing you can do about it.

What if you're just looking for a filename? Not so long ago, that's all you could look for. Though the rules and syntax are a bit strange, it's possible — even relatively easy — in Windows 7.

Let's say you want to find file names that contain the text string "secret." You use the symbols ~= like this:

```
system.filename:~="secret"
```

That will match files with names such as Windows Secrets.doc and MySecret.html.

To look for files with names that begin with a specific piece of text, use the ~< symbols. For example:

```
system.filename:~<"secret"
```

That will match Secrets.com but not SomeSecret.xls.

If you need an exact match, use the = sign this way:

```
system.filename:="windowssecrets.txt"
```

That returns only files named WindowsSecrets.txt or windowssecrets.txt.

(In all three examples above, the searches are case-insensitive.)

You can use the colon without a qualifier, but you get the weird rules for matching filenames that I described in my last column. In other words, Windows matches text at the beginning of a file name, after a space, or after the period — and that's it. So,

```
system.filename:"sec"
```

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matches Secrets.ppt, My Secretary.jpg, and win.sec — but it doesn't match, for example, MySecrets.gif.

It's important to realize that the system.filename: trick works all over the place — inside Windows Explorer, of course, but also in the File/Open dialog boxes in various Windows and Office applications. I have a yellow sticky note on my monitor that says system.filename:~="{ search string }".

Using wildcards in ways that make sense

If you've used DOS, or the Windows command line, or written a .bat file, or gone searching for text using Word or Excel, you're probably very familiar with wildcards: characters that serve as generic placeholders. For example, in DOS, searching for a string such as Invoice*.xls will turn up all the .xls files that start out with Invoice. On the Windows command line or in .bat files, searching for win32.* gives you all the files named win32 with any filename extension. The asterisk (*) is a wildcard, and in the Land of DOS it matches anything.

If you think you can use that time-honored technique in Windows 7 Search, think again — it doesn't work that way.

When you type an asterisk into a Windows 7 search box, Windows takes the characters following the asterisk and uses them to match any part of a file name. It's another idiosyncrasy that leads some old-timers to drink — or at least, to cluck.

Say you're in Windows Explorer or you click File/Open in Word, and you then type *doc into the Search box. Here's what happens:

As soon as Win7 sees the *, it doesn't bother looking inside files. You could have the text *doc inside a Word document, and Windows won't find it.

Instead, Windows starts scanning filenames, matching any names containing the

characters doc. So as you'd expect, you'll receive hits for every file with a .doc extension (such as WindowsSecrets.doc) — plus you'll get the odd file with the text "doc" inside the name (such as DryDock.jpg).

Again, you won't get any hits based on what's inside the file.

Making Windows 7 index where you search

In my previous column, I talked about why it's important to have Windows 7 index the locations you commonly use. For file searching, it's a speed thing.

By default, Windows 7 indexes files in all user libraries. (See Fred Langa's March 10 Top Story for details about Win7 Libraries.) If you have a PDF viewer, such as Adobe Reader or Foxit, the PDF files inside those libraries get indexed. If you use Outlook or Windows Live Mail, your mail gets indexed, too. (Win 7 might index mail in other e-mail clients.)

So, what if you frequently search for files in folders that aren't indexed by default? Unless you can add those folders to your libraries (a good idea, in general), you need to tell Windows where to build its indices. Note, however, you can add a folder to your PC's index only if it's located on the PC — you can't add a networked folder or the contents of an external USB drive.

Here's how to add a folder to your index:

Pick a time when you're not going to need the PC for a few hours (such as overnight). You run indexing just once, but it can take what seems like eons to complete.

Click Start, type index into the search box, and press Enter. You'll see the Indexing Options dialog.

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Click Modify. An Indexed Locations dialog box will appear, like the one shown in Figure 1.

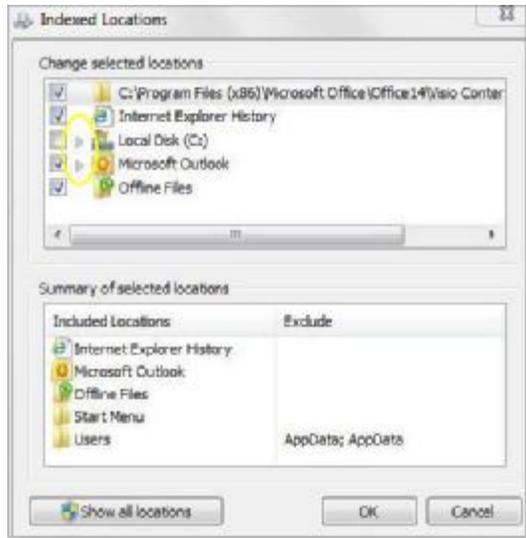


Figure 1. You can tell Windows exactly which folders you want to include in your search index.

In the upper panel, navigate to subfolders by clicking the small arrows next to the drive or application (highlighted in yellow in Figure 1). Check the boxes next to the folders you want to add. When you're done, click OK.

Reindexing might take a while, but when Windows is done, searching all those new locations will go faster than ever.

Refining searches with advanced operators

I've never been one to use the so-called advanced features in Windows 7 Search —

I usually go back and reformulate a search rather than try to fiddle with Boolean operators or restrict dates or file sizes. The only enhanced search commands I commonly use are system.filename and the * wildcard discussed above.

If you like spelunking, though, feel free to try the advanced options nicely described in Microsoft's Help & How-to article, "Advanced tips for searching in Windows." You can search in other locations, search on the Internet (sorry, Bing, I still prefer Google), or use the Boolean operators AND, OR, and NOT. (Just keep in mind that Microsoft requires you to capitalize them.)

Although many of you have written with recommendations for competing products — for example, FileSearchEX and Copernic Desktop Search (see the related forum on the Lounge) — I'm reasonably happy with the way Win7 Search works, and I really appreciate that it doesn't get in my way.

Hopefully you now have some good clues about why your searches don't turn out as expected — and you have a couple of mostly undocumented tips on how to make Windows 7 searches work better.

From Windows Secrets

Walk the Walk Talk The Talk

The light turned amber, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the pedestrian crossing, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her mobile phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up.

He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in the watch house.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, giving 'the finger', mouthing off at the bloke in front of you and swearing like a wharfie at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' rego plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the boot, so naturally.....I assumed you had stolen the car."

Cinnamon and Honey Whoever thought?

Honey is the only food on the planet that will not spoil or rot. It will do what some call turning to sugar. In reality honey is always honey. However, when left in a cool dark place for a long time it will do what I rather call "crystallizing" When this happens I loosen the lid, boil some water, and sit the honey container in the hot water, turn off the heat and let it liquefy. It is then as good as it ever was. Never boil honey or put it in a microwave. To do so will kill the enzymes in the honey.

Cinnamon and Honey Bet the drug companies won't like this one getting around. Facts on Honey and Cinnamon: It is found that a mixture of honey and Cinnamon cures most diseases. Honey is produced in most of the countries of the world. Scientists of today also accept honey as a 'Ram Ban' (very effective) medicine for all kinds of diseases. Honey can be used without any side effects for any kind of diseases. Today's science says that even though honey is sweet, if taken in the right dosage as a medicine, it does not harm diabetic patients. Weekly World News, a magazine in Canada, in its issue dated 17 January, 1995 has given the following list of diseases that can be cured by honey and cinnamon as researched by western scientists:

HEART DISEASES: Make a paste of honey and cinnamon powder, apply on bread, instead of jelly and jam, and eat it regularly for breakfast. It reduces the cholesterol in the arteries and saves the patient from heart attack. Also, those who have already had an attack, if they do this process daily, they are kept miles away from the next attack.. Regular use of the above process relieves loss of breath and strengthens the heart beat. In America and Canada, various nursing homes have treated patients successfully and have found that as you age, the arteries and veins lose their flexibility and get clogged; honey and cinnamon revitalize the arteries and veins.

ARTHRITIS: Arthritis patients may take daily, morning and night, one cup of hot water with two spoons of honey and one small teaspoon of cinnamon powder. If taken regularly even chronic arthritis can be cured. In a recent

research conducted at the Copenhagen University, it was found that when the doctors treated their patients with a mixture of one tablespoon Honey and half teaspoon Cinnamon powder before breakfast, they found that within a week, out of the 200 people so treated, practically 73 patients were totally relieved of pain, and within a month, mostly all the patients who could not walk or move around because of arthritis started walking without pain.

BLADDER INFECTIONS: Take two tablespoons of cinnamon powder and one teaspoon of honey in a glass of lukewarm water and drink it. It destroys the germs in the bladder..

CHOLESTEROL: Two tablespoons of honey and three teaspoons of Cinnamon Powder mixed in 16 ounces of tea water, given to a cholesterol patient, was found to reduce the level of cholesterol in the blood by 10 percent within two hours As mentioned for arthritic patients, if taken three times a day, any chronic cholesterol is cured. According to information received in the said Journal, pure honey taken with food daily relieves complaints of cholesterol.

COLDS: Those suffering from common or severe colds should take one tablespoon lukewarm honey with 1/4 spoon cinnamon powder daily for three days. This process will cure most chronic cough, cold, and clear the sinuses.

UPSET STOMACH: Honey taken with cinnamon powder cures stomach ache and also clears stomach ulcers from the root. **GAS:** According to the studies done in India and Japan, it is revealed that if Honey is taken with cinnamon powder the stomach is relieved of gas. **IMMUNE SYSTEM:** Daily use of honey and cinnamon powder strengthens the immune system and protects the body from bacteria and viral attacks. Scientists have found that honey has various vitamins and iron in large amounts. Constant use of Honey strengthens the white blood corpuscles to fight bacterial and viral diseases.

INDIGESTION: Cinnamon powder sprinkled on two tablespoons of honey taken before food relieves acidity and digests the heaviest of meals.

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INFLUENZA: A scientist in Spain has proved that honey contains a natural 'Ingredient' which kills the influenza germs and saves the patient from flu.

LONGEVITY: Tea made with honey and cinnamon powder, when taken regularly, arrests the ravages of old age. Take four spoons of honey, one spoon of cinnamon powder, and three cups of water and boil to make like tea. Drink 1/4 cup, three to four times a day. It keeps the skin fresh and soft and arrests old age. Life spans also increase and even a 100 year old, starts performing the chores of a 20-year-old..

PIMPLES: Three tablespoons of honey and one teaspoon of cinnamon powder paste. Apply this paste on the pimples before sleeping and wash it next morning with warm water. If done daily for two weeks, it removes pimples from the root.

SKIN INFECTIONS: Applying honey and cinnamon powder in equal parts on the affected parts cures eczema, ringworm and all types of skin infections.

WEIGHT LOSS: Daily in the morning one half hour before breakfast on an empty stomach, and at night before sleeping, drink honey and cinnamon powder boiled in one cup of water. If taken regularly, it reduces the weight of even the most obese person. Also, drinking this mixture regularly does not allow the fat to accumulate in the body even though the person may eat a high calorie diet.

CANCER: Recent research in Japan and Australia has revealed that advanced cancer of the stomach and bones have been cured successfully. Patients suffering from these kinds of cancer should daily take one tablespoon of honey with one teaspoon of cinnamon powder for one month three times a day.

FATIGUE: Recent studies have shown that the sugar content of honey is more helpful rather than being detrimental to the strength of the body. Senior citizens, who take honey and cinnamon powder in equal parts, are more alert and flexible. Dr. Milton, who has done research, says that a half tablespoon of honey taken in a glass of water and sprinkled with

cinnamon powder, taken daily after brushing and in the afternoon at about 3:00 P.M. when the vitality of the body starts to decrease, increases the vitality of the body within a week.

BAD BREATH: People of South America, first thing in the morning, gargle with one teaspoon of honey and cinnamon powder mixed in hot water, so their breath stays fresh throughout the day.

HEARING LOSS: Daily morning and night honey and cinnamon powder, taken in equal parts restores hearing. Remember when we were kids? We had toast with real butter and cinnamon sprinkled on it!

You might want to share this information with a friend, kinfolks and loved ones.

Everyone needs healthy help information ~ what they do with it is up to them ~ share with your email buddies!!!!

HEALTH MESSAGE (please give me a break)

As I was lying in bed pondering the problems of the world, I rapidly realized that I don't really give a rat's ass.

1. If walking/cycling is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.
2. A whale swims all day, only eats fish, drinks water, and is fat.
3. A rabbit runs and hops and only lives 15 years.
4. A tortoise doesn't run and does nothing, yet it lives for 450 years.

And you tell me to exercise?? I don't think so.

I'm retired. Go around me!

It's the tortoise life for me!



Irish Tales

Paddy spies a letter lying on his doormat.

It says on the envelope "DO NOT BEND".

Paddy spends the next 2 hours trying to figure out how to pick it up.

Paddy shouts frantically into the phone "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!"

"Is this her first child?" asks the Doctor.

"No", shouts Paddy, "this is her husband!"

An old Irish farmer's dog goes missing and he's inconsolable.

His wife says "Why don't you put an advert in the paper?"

He does, but two weeks later the dog is still missing.

"What did you put in the paper?" his wife asks.

"Here boy" he replies.

Paddy's in jail. Guard looks in his cell and sees him hanging by his feet.

"What on earth you doing?" he asks.

"Hanging myself" Paddy replies.

"It should be around your neck" says the Guard.

"I know" says Paddy "but I couldn't breathe".

An answer I can understand. An American tourist asks an Irishman:

"Why do Scuba divers always fall backwards off their boats?"

To which the Irishman replies: "They have to go backwards. If they fell forwards, they'd still be in the boat."

^a Take your PC's temperature — for free!

By Fred Langa



Overheating in PCs can cause unexpected hangs and shutdowns — and even shorten the life of your computer.

Fortunately, it's easy to monitor your system's temperature and to correct the most common causes of overheating.

Heat is the inevitable byproduct of all electronic operations. Have you ever wondered at the size of that heat sink sitting on top of a desktop system's much smaller CPU?

Heat is also the scourge of all electronics hardware. Mild overheating will shorten the life of a system's components; excessive overheating can cause a PC to cook itself to death. At the very least, a PC that's running too hot can have erratic behavior, data errors, spontaneous reboots, and other intermittent — and often baffling — problems.

Sometimes, the first and only sign of serious heat-related trouble is a sudden failure such as the one described by reader Richard Thornton:

"I have a laptop with Windows 7 Home Premium [installed]. Recently, while I was watching a streamed Netflix movie, everything froze. It was a panic-initiating experience. I had to use a forced shutdown. "I noticed that the power AC adapter was very hot. Upon restart, **CHKDSK** ran. It found and fixed some damaged files. Afterwards, the computer seemed to function properly, but I haven't tried to watch a Netflix movie yet. "I've tried many support venues, but so far nobody can answer why the computer froze."

^a This sounds like a classic case of overheating. If the ability of a PC (or laptop, or netbook, or whatever) to cool itself is partially compromised, the system may work fine under normal load but suffer heat stroke when asked to work hard. Streaming a high-bit rate, movie-quality video feed is indeed a hardware-intensive task.

What can cause a cooling system to fail? Sometimes it's a dead fan, but most often it's simple grunge — dust and dirt — that slowly builds up in a system's air passages and prevents proper cooling.

Obviously, it's better to find out about thermal problems **before** you experience freezes, hangs, data loss — or premature system death! That's what the rest of this article is about: How to tell whether your PC is being properly cooled — and what to do if it isn't!

Is your personal computer headed for a meltdown?

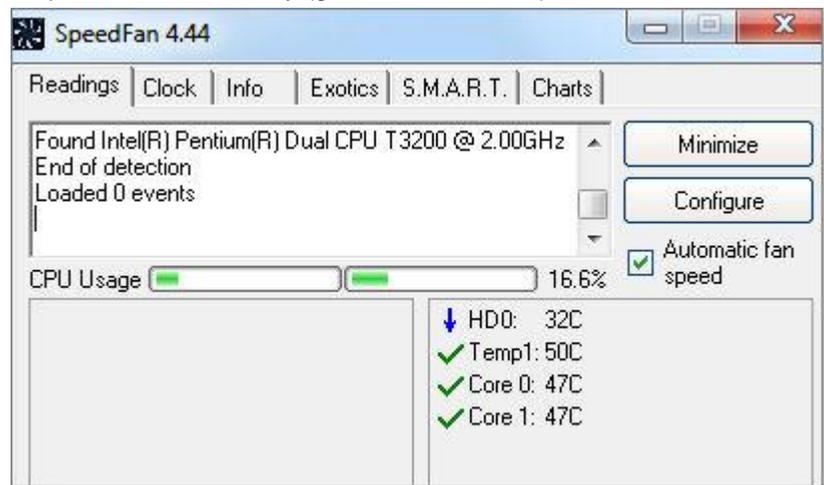
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Most motherboards, CPUs, and hard drives have temperature sensors built in. Oddly, most operating systems largely ignore these sensors. But with the right software, you can tap into your PC's built-in sensors to tell exactly how hot it is inside the case.

My favorite temperature-related tool is SpeedFan, a free, multipurpose program that can monitor your system's temperatures, fan speeds, and internal voltages. If your hard drives are S.M.A.R.T.-compliant ([definition](#)) — and most are — SpeedFan also can show you your hard-drive temperatures. With additional configuration, SpeedFan can also let you control your system's fans, adjust the CPU clock speed, and more. These are advanced, expert-level features that should be approached with caution, if at all. But the basic temperature readings require no special configuration and are safe for anyone — novice to expert.

SpeedFan's download [page](#) makes the actual download link somewhat hard to find. On that page, the download-initiating link is the phrase **SpeedFan 4.44** in the paragraph labeled **Download**.

Running on one of my laptops (see Figure 1), SpeedFan shows that the temperature of the hard drive (HDD) is a relatively cool 32°C and dropping (the blue down arrow). The app also indicates that the motherboard (Temp1) and the two CPU cores (Core 0, Core 1) temperatures are all within safe temperatures and steady (green check marks).



^a **Figure 1. SpeedFan can show that the current temperature of hard drives, CPUs, the motherboard, and other components are within safe ranges.**

SpeedFan also lets you set alarms to provide early warning of imminent overheating, so you can take corrective action before damage occurs. The software runs on all current Windows versions, and it supports a wide range of common hardware sensors and motherboard types.

If SpeedFan doesn't work on your system or if you'd prefer something different, you can choose from plenty of other temperature-monitoring software. I've used the following to good effect. Except as noted, they're free downloads from the listed sites.

MobileMeter: Monitors CPU temperature, CPU clock speed, battery charge/discharge rate, and HDD temperature.

^a **Core Temp:** Monitors CPU temperature. The software is excellent, but it's distributed via a very aggressive co-marketing installer package. Read the download dialog boxes carefully to decline software you *don't* want.

^a **Intel Active Monitor:** Monitors CPU temperature, motherboard temperature, voltage and fan speed. Compatible with most newer Intel motherboards. See also the related Intel Desktop Utilities (free; [site](#)).

^a **Hmonitor:** Monitors voltage, CPU temperature, motherboard temperature, and fan RPM. (14 days free, then **U.S. \$25 and up**).

^a **What temperatures are OK — what's too hot?**

Different systems and components are designed for different temperatures. For example, many laptops and portable devices are built to run at much higher temperatures than desktop systems.

Most monitoring software will try to identify your system type so it can accurately interpret the temperatures a PC generates. But this tends to be a broad-brush, approximate approach.

For greater precision, you can look up the optimal operating temperatures for your system on the maker's website. For example, Intel says my laptop's CPU chip has a maximum safe operating temperature of 100°C. With that information in hand, I can more accurately confirm that the machine is not overheating.

All the major system vendors and component makers publish similar data, often in technical sections of online product spec sheets.

As a shortcut, some third-party sites aggregate temperature information for you. For example, a Panther Products [page](#) lists "CPU maximum temperatures" for a number of common CPU types. If yours is a listed type, you can save yourself some digging on the vendor's pages. (If you don't know your CPU type, a freeware tool such as CPU-Z [site](#) can help.)

To be certain, do a thermal stress test

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After you have temperature-monitoring software installed and you know what your system's safe thermal values are, you can perform a controlled stress test to make sure your cooling system is working correctly.

The concept is simple: start your thermal monitoring software and then run your PC's CPU at 100-percent load for a set time (say, 10 minutes). Watch what happens to the temperature readings.

In a healthy system, the temperatures will climb rapidly for a minute or two, then stabilize safely below the allowable maximum temperature.

In a poorly cooled system, the temperatures will keep climbing until they approach — or even threaten to surpass — the maximum allowable temperatures. If you see this happening, abort the test, shut down your PC, and attend to the PC's cooling system. We'll cover this in a moment.

The easiest, most reliable way to run a CPU at full power for a set time is with specialty testing software such as the free OverClock Checking Tool ([download site](#)) or Prime95 (free; [site](#)). Both come with complete instructions. You can try commercial options, too — such as PassMark's BurnIn Test (\$39 and up; [site](#)).

If your system runs hot or really overheats

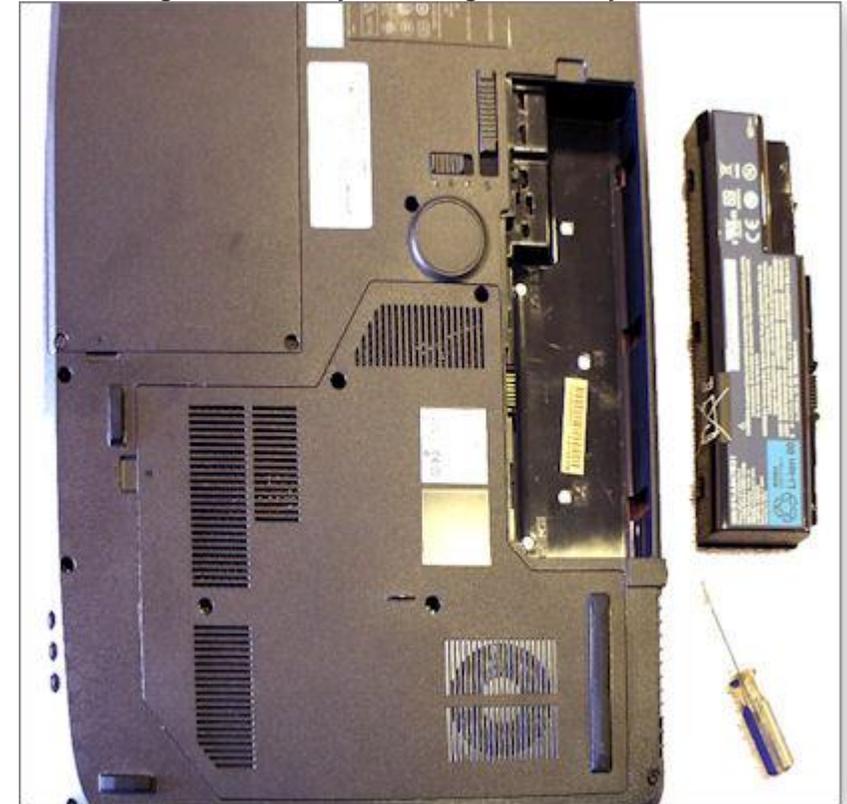
As I stated at the top, the most common cause of heat trouble is dust and dirt clogging a PC's fan, heat exchanger, or other critical internal air passages. Fortunately, it's easy to clean most PC desktop and laptop cooling systems.

Desktops are typically easy to open up and clean with swabs, cleaning cloths, and judiciously used compressed air. See my Feb. 28, 2005, Langa Letter [story](#) for a step-by-step guide.

You can clean the cooling system of a typical laptop in less than 10 minutes, as I'll show here in five easy steps:

1. With the laptop's files backed up and the system completely powered off, place the laptop upside down on a soft surface (such as an old towel) in a well-lighted location. Remove the laptop's battery, as shown in Figure 2, and locate the fan. It's usually near where warm air normally exits the laptop. In this example, my laptop's fan is located in the lower-right corner of the

machine. **Figure 2. Start by removing the battery.**



a 2.

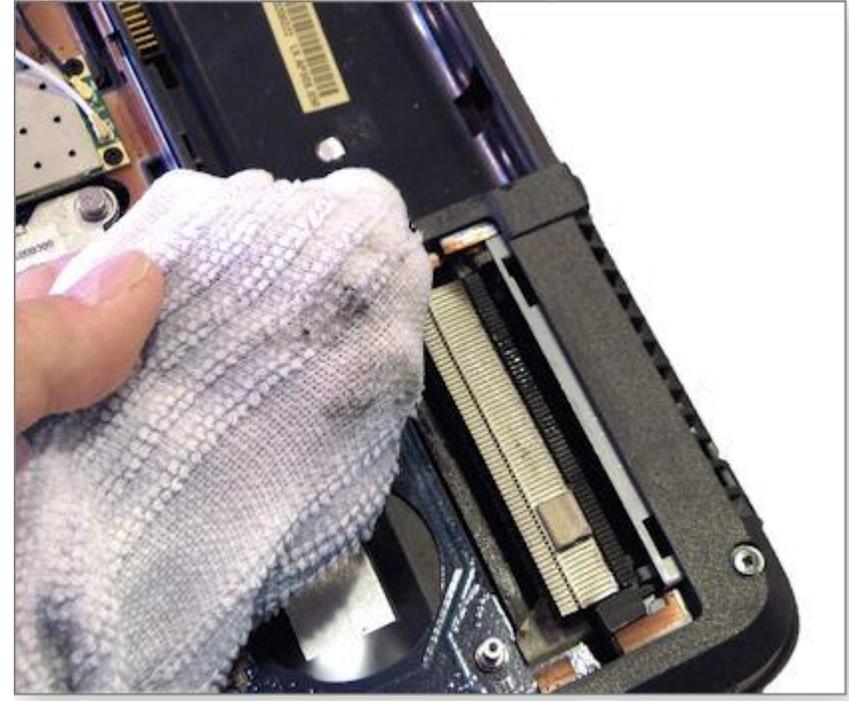
Carefully examine the area around the fan to determine the least amount of disassembly necessary to gain access to the fan. In this case, just four screws hold a plastic cover in place over the fan and nearby components. (See

a Figure 5. You can use swabs to carefully clean the fan.



a 4. Clean the vents and heat exchanger the same way. As you see in Figure 6, a barely damp cloth works well.

a Figure 6. Clean the vents and heat exchanger.



a 5. Carefully reassemble the parts, and you're done!
Want more detail on cleaning? See the [article](#) I wrote a long time ago, "Curing laptop overheating." It uses a now-obsolete system for an example, but the cleaning principles remain the same.
With your PC's fan, vents, and heat exchanger now clean and unobstructed, your system should now be able to stay cool, even when running at full speed!