



BUG-BYTES

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TAKE THIS SHORT COMPUTER QUIZ

TEST YOUR COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

Read the questions carefully and follow the instructions for the questions. The questions are multiple choice, but usually, there is only one best answer.

WHICH IS THE CORRECT WAY TO CUT AND PASTE?

1. Select word or phrase, Press Ctrl-C then select a new location and press Ctrl-V.
2. Select word or phrase, Press Ctrl-X then select a new location and press Ctrl-V.

WHICH IS THE CORRECT WAY TO MOVE A FILE FROM ONE LOCATION TO ANOTHER?

3. Drag and drop the file from the source to the target location.
4. Hold down the Ctrl key and drag and drop the file to the new location.

WHICH WAY PERMANENTLY DELETES AN E-MAIL MESSAGE?

5. Select message, press the delete key
6. Select message, hold down shift key and press the delete key

HOW TO PRINT CD LABELS

GIVE YOUR CD'S A PROFESSIONAL LOOK



You can mark your CDs using a special marking pen, one that is not abrasive and that is made especially for CDs and DVDs. For example, Sharpie makes a fine CD/DVD marking pen in four different colors. However, the results, are not as pleasing nor as professional as applying a CD label to your CDs.

Avery provides free labeling software (Design Pro5) that works with their labels. However, if you have XP and a large collection of CDs that you want to label, you might want to purchase the kit from Memorex, and use their much lower cost labels, or use Staples proprietary labels.

While labeling kits are also made for DVDs, it is not a good idea to apply labels to DVDs. DVDs turn at a much higher spin rate and can get out of balance due to the application of a label. They also build up heat that is trapped under the label.

Some of the label kits come with a centering device to help you accurately apply the labels. However, even with the centering device, apparently some DVDs will not play. I have not had any problem with CDs.

In fact, with a label applied, some DVDs will not play. Remove the label and they play just fine. So for DVDs you are pretty much stuck with using a marking pen, or buying a special printer that applies ink (Epson), or burns a pattern on a specially coated DVD disk (HP). While the printers work very well, it is an expensive process. You have to buy a printer that supports LightScribe, or a LightScribe drive that burns an image on the costly media. Thus, a DVD marker is the low cost solution of choice for DVDs. See this link. <http://www.lightscribe.com/>

Labeling kits can print combinations of CD spines, jewel case inserts, and two CD disk labels per page depending on the media format that you select. The screen shot below is from one of the Avery options.

There are more choices of labeling kits for Windows XP than there are for Vista. Check to see that the kit you select supports your operating system.



Correct answers to short quiz: 1, 3, 6.

DO YOU HAVE A CD/DVD BURNER?

OLDER COMPUTER OFTEN HAVE ONLY A READER

If your computer has a CD/DVD burner you can easily share files, photos, and graphics with friends. You can also quickly archive or backup important files.

While most computers come with at least a CD drive, and newer models come with drives that support both CDs and DVDs, older computers often came with only a CD reader. That is, they could not burn CDs and could not read nor write to DVD media.

Fortunately, it is a simple task to swap out your old CD read-only drive for a new CD/DVD burner drive. In fact some of the new drives support writing to dual layer media. You slip out the old drive, disconnect the ribbon cable and power plug, and slip in and connect the new drive. Follow the instructions to install the new software driver for your drive. With Vista, it automatically recognizes a large number of CD/DVD drives.



As an example, the cost for a Pioneer DVR-115DBK Black Dual Layer DVD +/- RW writer ranges from \$30 to \$41 depending on where you buy it. Check www.pricegrabber.com to comparison shop. The drive writes CDs and DVDs, or

use a thumb drive. A 4GB drive is about \$28.

IS YOUR CD/DVD BURNER SOFTWARE LONG IN THE TOOTH?

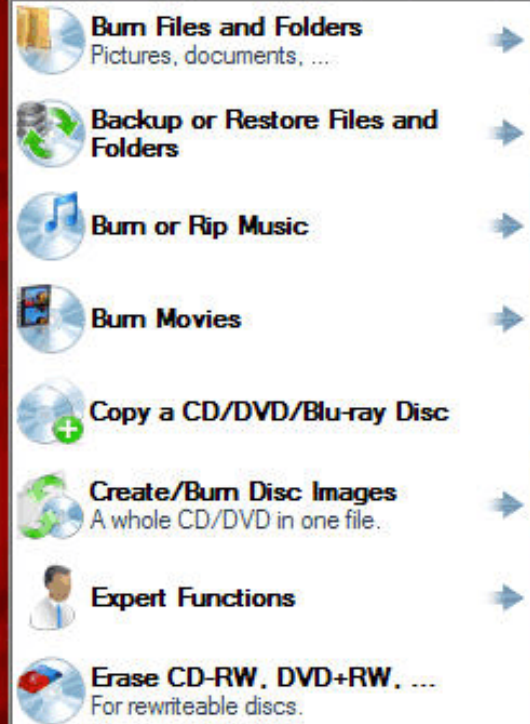
YOUR OLD BURNER SOFTWARE MAY NOT SUPPORT YOUR NEW DRIVE

If it has been two or more years since you upgraded your burner software, it may not support the new features of your drive, or even be compatible with your new operating system.

Popular products by Nero and Roxio may bundle far more stuff than you really need or want. If all you want to do is to quickly burn music or data to CDs or DVDs consider the low cost alternative from www.ashampoo.com, Burning Studio 8 (about \$40). I've used their burning software for years. It is extremely easy to use.

See the Burning Studio menu at the upper right.

What would you like to do?



You can download a free trial copy of the software. It is good way to determine if the software is right for you and how well it works with your computer.

IS YOUR PROGRAM SOFTWARE SECURE?

YOU MAY BE SURPRISED AT THE ANSWER

Even the most careful computer user may fail to update important software. As a result, they may leave themselves open to potential security problems, or they may not be aware that they have end-of-life software still installed on their computers.

Secunia comes to the rescue (www.secunia.com). Secunia offers a free (for personal use) *Personal Software Inspector* (PSI) that scans for software vulnerabilities. It finds the programs that are below your personal radar, such as your PDF reader, Flash, JAVA, and other such programs.

To use the program, download Secunia PSI (RC-2, release candidate 2) then scan your computer. The scan takes

awhile, so be patient. When the scan completes it reports the number of programs that are insecure, end-of-life, and patched that reside on your computer. The software provides information about each vulnerability it finds with links that enable you to directly download updates to fix those vulnerability.

Secunia PSI enables you to find and fix vulnerabilities that you might otherwise miss. Think of it as a second opinion.

Here are sample screen shots from PSI.

Overview | **Insecure** | End-of-Life | Patched

Good afternoon, <unregistered user>

Congratulations, no applications are marked as Insecure or End-of-Life.

Secunia System Score [?] **100%**

Last Full System Scan [?] **3 minutes ago**

State of Applications [?]

0 Insecure	
0 End-of-Life	
56 Patched	
56 Total	

Scan Progress: Step-by-Step

- Scan started
- Downloading search rules from Secunia (https)
- Searching files on local fixed drives
- Collecting information from files
- Collecting information about operating system
- Determining missing Microsoft Security Patches
- Matching data with Secunia File Signatures engine
- Scan completed

The scan was completed successfully

Your Secunia System Score: **100%**

The following was detected:

0 Insecure applications	
0 End-of-Life applications	
56 Patched applications	
56 Total	

ARE YOUR DEVICE DRIVERS UPDATED?

OBSOLETE DRIVERS CAN BE A SOURCE OF PROBLEMS

Device drivers are software programs that allow your computer hardware, especially peripherals, to work with your computer. For example, your graphics card, hard drives, sound board, network adapter, motherboard, and USB devices all require device drivers to work correctly with your computer.

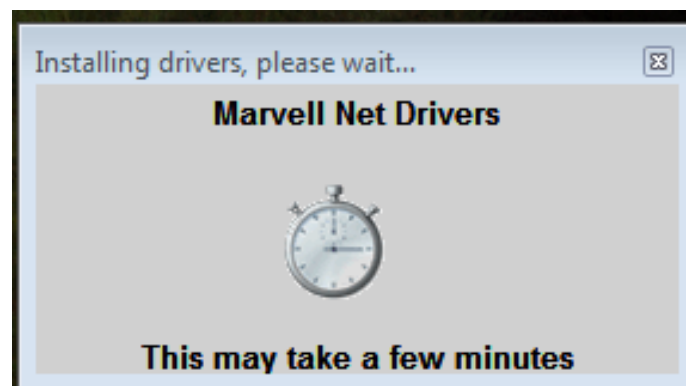
In the past, it was cumbersome to try to locate the newest drivers for your computer. A free product, DriverMax, makes it easy to scan for the most recent drivers for all the drivers on your computer. In addition, it enables you to backup your drivers so that they are readily available to you if you reinstall your operating system.

With your drivers backed up, they are all available in one location instead of spread across many CDs. Unlike the CDs, these are the latest versions of your drivers.

Even if you think your computer is perfectly stable, scan with DriverMax. That way, you will know if a problem crops up, what driver may be the source of the problem. The program provides links to the latest downloads. Just click on the links and enjoy the bug fixes and new capabilities that are included in the latest drivers.

You can download DriverMax from the following link.

http://www.download.com/DriverMax/3000-2098_4-10572602.html. The program does require that you register the software, but the software is free. The program works with Windows XP and Vista.



Q And A

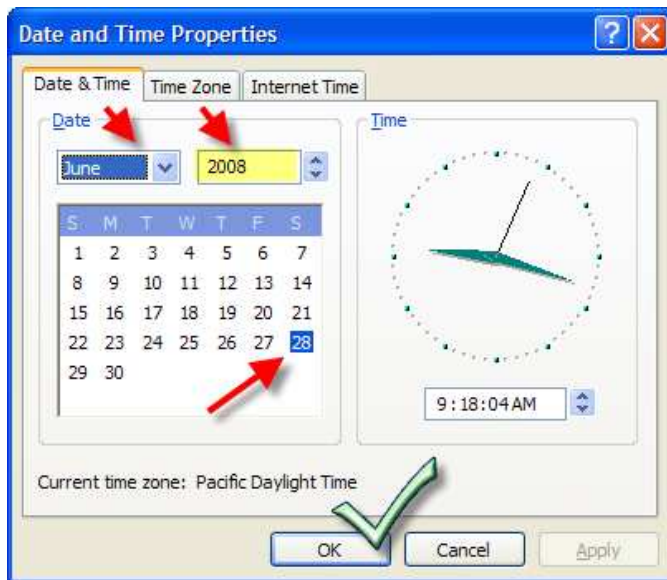
WHERE CAN I FIND A CALENDAR FOR NEXT YEAR AND BEYOND?

From time to time you may need to know what day falls on a particular date in the future, or when a future holiday falls on the calendar. Follow the instructions below for your operating system. For both XP and Vista you can use the Date and Time icon in the system tray.

XP

Double-click on the time icon in the lower right corner of your screen. See the screen shot below.

Select the month (shown in blue) and then the year (shown here in yellow). A drop down menu will appear for each of these choices. Then select the date. The calendar will change based on your selections.



VISTA

Vista uses a slightly different approach. Click on the date at the top of the dialog box to toggle through four date and year choices. See the screen shots that follow. Three of the four choices are shown. Not shown is the date and year display for a future year.

