



The Latest News from More Power Computers



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Special points of interest:

> Beautiful Baubles Or Battered Blunders! Views On Vista Vary Depending On System Resources.

> Be Careful And Create a Restore Point. That Way If The Change Is Not What You Want You Can Undo It.

> With Vista You Can Pick And Choose The Enhancements You Want To Customize Your Look And Tweak The Performance Of Your Computer!

Vista Features To Embrace Or Displace

If you have a new computer with lots of resources then you're probably enjoying the extra features that Vista affords its users. However, if you own a more "experienced" computer, or if your computer does not have enough resources (for example at least 2 GB RAM), then you may have noticed the Vista features slowing down your system. The great news is these options are optional. You can turn off the ones you don't like and keep the ones you do like. Depending on your taste, you may discover you want to hold onto a few features. To make sure you can easily restore your system you may create a restore point. Click on Start, then control panel, choose *System and Maintenance*, then choose *Back Up and Restore Center*, then click on the button marked *Create a Restore Point*. The sidebar has a number of cute extras, but those cost you resources you could be using to speed up your other programs. Turning off the sidebar speeds up your computer and reduces startup time. Right click on the sidebar and choose *Close Sidebar*. To remove this from start up simply remove the checkmark from the box marked *Start Sidebar When*

Windows Starts, then click *OK*. Vista offers visual enhancements such as tiny thumbnail views of a window that pop-up when you hover over the taskbar. If you'd like to try Vista without some of these features and gain some performance, then right-click on your desktop and choose *Personalize Window Color and Appearance*, then choose *Open Classic Appearance Properties for More Color Options*, choose *Windows Vista Basic*, and then *OK*. Remember, if you don't like the changes you've made you can restore the system back to the way it was if you created a restore point.

You can pick and choose some additional visual enhancements to tweak your computers performance by clicking on the *Start* button, right-click on *Computer*, and then click on *Properties*. Choose *Advanced System Settings*, click on the tab marked *Advanced*, then click on the *Settings* button. From there you can choose to remove some of the features or remove all of them by choosing *Adjust for Best Performance*.

If you own a laptop or desktop, not a tablet PC, then you're receiving no benefit from Vista's tablet PC functions and

can turn them off. Click on the *Start* button, choose *Control Panel*, and then click on *Programs and Features* (under the classic view of control panel). Click on *Turn Windows Features On or Off*, then uncheck the box marked *Tablet PC Optional Components*. But you're not done yet. Click on *Start* and in the search window type *services*. A new window will open marked *Services*. In the list locate *Tablet PC Input Services* and double-click on it. A new window will appear. Next to *Startup Type* will be a drop-down menu and you want to change it from *Automatic* to *Disabled*, then click on *OK*.

I just wanted to hit the highlights, but there are additional features not discussed here that can be turned off. But be careful. Shutting off some functions may cause more problems than gains. For example, if your working from home using Vista Business or Ultimate and connecting to a business network, disabling certain functions can prevent remote repairs, slow down information searches, or even prevent you from accessing or saving files. Be very careful and create a restore point. That way if the change is not what you want you can undo it.



Your TOTAL IT solution since 1994!

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Visit Us at the Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce "Outsideln Business Expo 2009"

The Outsideln Business Expo 2009, presented by the Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce is coming to the Cowlitz Regional Conference Center in Longview, Washington February 20 and 21. More Power Computers will be attending and will feature the latest in laptops, desktops, and LCD monitor technologies.

Visit our table and register for a chance to win a 22" widescreen LCD monitor.

