

Making Life Easier

Computer Problems Resolved

(NAPSA)—Processing these questions and answers about computer problems could help keep you from having any:

Q. I fear phishing. How can I protect my identity and my machine?

A. There are several steps you can take. First, never open attachments that contain file extensions .exe, .vbs or .scr. Next, scan all floppies, CDs and DVDs that go into your computer. Never install pirated software. Know exactly what is being copied onto your system. Seemingly-innocent software can contain viruses or sneaky “Trojan horse” programs that let hackers control your computer.

Q. How can I save my data in case my computer is ever damaged or stolen?

A. Back up a bit. Literally. Backing up your information can save you lots of aggravation. Install a DVD or CD burner so you can save your files onto recordable and rewritable discs. If that doesn't work, a data recovery service can try to recover lost files resulting from hardware malfunctions, software conflicts or viruses.

Q. How can I protect myself from security threats?

A. One way is to install a firewall, which keeps intruders from sneaking into your computer and accessing your private data. Firewalls also can alert you when spyware programs attempt to transmit your sensitive information over the Internet. In particular, firewalls are crucial if you have the always-on internet connection of DSL or a cable modem.



Tech experts can rush to the rescue of your computer and your company.

Q. My computer is several years old and becoming slow to boot up. Why?

A. You may be running out of storage space. Breathe new life into your PC by upgrading some of its key components. Even if your system is fairly new, you may need a few enhancements.

This information comes from the experts at Geeks On Call, certified technicians who deliver PC service on-site at homes and businesses around the country. Reputable on-site tech support companies such as Geeks on Call offer expert service that is particularly handy for home-based businesses and companies that can't afford or don't want a full-time IT staff. Anyone who values his or her personal time, wants to improve a computer's performance, upgrade a computer's components or install a network without spending hours trying to figure it out may want to take advantage of this type of service.

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