

# COMPUTER FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions About Computer Technology

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## Sixth Anniversary Edition

Everybody sing along now: "Happy Birthday to us. Happy Birthday to us. Happy Birthday dear Amicron. Happy Birthday to us." Oh, we hope that didn't seem to pompous, but we're excited. February marks our **sixth** anniversary. We've been serving the Western New York community now for six wonderful years. I was going to prepare a list of people to thank, but then I realized that it would pretty much take up this entire column. So instead allow me to express my deepest, sincere thanks to all of our hundreds of customers, associates, friends, and family for six wonderful years. We thank you once again for your continued support, and we look forward to many more.

We have an immediate entry-level opening for a secretary/receptionist. We will provide on-the-job training in basic computer skills necessary for this position. If interested, please mail, fax, or email your resume to the number/address below. *No calls, please.*

**Q:** On my computer at home, whenever I delete a file, Windows asks me if I am sure I want to move the file to the Recycle Bin. Yet, at the office, I never get this prompt. I like to be able to verify a file deletion. How can I turn this warning on? >Joe, Buffalo

**A:** Joe, this is a setting in your Recycle Bin itself. If you *right-click* on the Recycle Bin, and choose *properties*, you will see a check box towards the bottom of the dialog box that opens that says, "display delete confirmation dialog box." If you check this box, Windows will ask if you're sure before deleting any files. If you find this annoying, just uncheck the box. It is checked by default. >Iain

**Q:** I hear that Windows 2000 is being released on February 17. Should I upgrade my system right away, or should I wait? >Janis, Cheektowaga

**A:** Janis, we *always* recommend that you wait before upgrading any software, especially something as important as your operating system. February 17 is the release date for Windows 2000, but we're going to recommend that you wait until at least summer before changing over to the new operating system. We're going to do a lot of testing and playing with the new Windows before we give it our official seal of approval (remember the headaches we all had when Windows 95 was first released). And remember, this version of Windows is really an upgrade for those users who currently are running Windows NT 4.0. The "consumer" version of Windows 2000 (akin to Windows 98) isn't due out until later this year. Keep reading *ComputerFAQs* for more information, and we'll keep you posted. >Richard

**Q:** I have two computers in my house: the one that I use in my office, and the one my kids use in the living room. Is there any way that I can have both of these computers share the same Internet connection - at the same time? I'd also like to be able to plug my laptop in occasionally as well. >Daniel, Williamsville

**A:** Daniel, the first thing you'll have to do is set up a small network. Now, this isn't very difficult or expensive. All you need is a \$40 network card for each computer, a \$50 hub, and some cable to run between the machines (about \$0.40 per foot). You can set up a simple TCP/IP peer-to-peer Windows network this way. Once you've got that done, you can set up a feature in Windows 98 called *Internet Connection Sharing* which will share one dial-up connection across your network. For more information on how this works, call and request document **002101**. >Justin

**Q:** I have an older laptop that I've had for a few years. It still runs great, but it's slow and the display really isn't as nice as some of the newer laptops that are on the market right now. Is there any way I can upgrade this thing? >Brandon, Buffalo

**A:** Brandon, you probably *can* upgrade part of it, but you probably won't want to. Laptops are very proprietary - even new ones. Every manufacturer is different. There really aren't many laptop standards. Even if you can find parts for it, you probably will only be able to add memory. Bottom line, it's probably not worth upgrading. You'd be better off saving your pennies up for a new notebook PC. >Don

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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