

Re: What causes Vista PC to freeze?

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- *From:* westom <westom1@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 17 Mar 2009 12:42:24 -0700 (PDT)
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First, nobody need be an EE. This is about simple diagnostic procedures. And anything that might be better solved by an EE – well, that is what you have in this newsgroup if you provided detailed information – especially numbers. And for free. Third, that analog meter belongs in the trash. Even better technology is sold in K-mart for about the price of a hammer. An analog meter is no longer sufficient for required numbers. Even auto mechanics now routinely use 3.5 digit multimeter – they are that ubiquitous.

To reply means making assumptions. For example, does not matter whether you brought an ethernet cable. To provide useful information, defined is what happens when NIC is connected to router or modem. And then what happens when only cable is removed. And again, but without the NIC card. An existing cable in their house means your missing cable is irrelevant. And then repeat same tests when in your home. Also confusing – is the Wifi and NIC the same PCI card? Not stated when it must be. Vague posting force too many assumptions.

For example, one type failure means the first computer connects to the router without failure. That same defective modem connected to the second computer – with same defect in its NIC – means second computer fails. Then both computers work just fine at your place. To have one computer fail means both defective must exist in the configuration. This posted previously. And with what was posted, nothing useful disputes whether this failure example exists.

Also confusing – the second computer fails when only connected via Wifi? That also is not specifically states leaving me to assume both a yes and no answer.

Why do I need answers that detailed and specific? Information this vague routinely leads to too many assumptions and completely irrelevant conclusions. You must literal state what connects to what and then what happens – good or failed – to obtain a useful reply. And nobody needs even technician training to obtain a solution here.

Currently there is no information sufficient to replace anything. And not because that information requires technical abilities. What

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you did and did not do is too vague. And don't replace anything until we have a suspect.

Using that third paragraph as an example, replacing the router would make it work even though the computer is still defective. Or maybe not because, well many posts do not differentiate between test using Wifi, or test using an ethernet cable, or a test with NIC removed.

Now assuming a completely different interpretation from your post – well what is not booting? Does the computer actually boot but lock up long after booting – and you called that no boot? IOW once you see the Windows logo, then the computer has booted just fine – even if the computer fails later. IOW exactly where does the computer stop? Another example of why a useful reply is subverted by too little information. Do not assume you know when booting ends and when Windows configures itself. Currently, you have repeatedly posted that the Windows logo never appears when the NIC is installed – which makes no sense considering other observations. So maybe the meter was never needed because the computer was booting every time? Again, information posted is woefully too vague to obtain useful replies.

Even that 'analog meter' makes no sense because such meters were obsoleted so many times as to be almost useless for most technologies – even beyond computers. But then, the request for voltage numbers may be completely unnecessary. You posted 'no booting' when it booted every time? Just another still unanswered question because posts have been too vague; contained too many contradictions.

Every test must be detailed as to even what was enabled and what was connected to what. Nothing posted required even electrical technician knowledge. Anything you feel is unimportant is usually the most important request. IOW every question requires an answer – especially those that make no sense to you. Your posts contain too many contradictions and include too many useless observations (as demonstrated by the above third paragraph example).

On Mar 17, 11:44 am, "M Skabialka" <mskabia...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I really appreciate your persistence in trying to help with this problem, but you must realize that I am fixing this computer as a friend (no pay!) and hiring a competent electrical engineer doesn't come into the budget. The person I am using has a degree in Avionics so I have to assume he knows what he is talking about, and I don't have the qualifications to question his judgement. His multimeter was analog so it would be difficult to get a 2 decimal place accurate reading anyway. There are two computers at their house. One is connected directly to the modem. Everything works. The other boots properly if there is no wireless NIC or modem in the PCI slots on the motherboard. It does not boot if they are installed. I did not bring a network cable to test if the onboard NIC worked. However, this computer works properly at my house with the PCI cards installed, using

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wireless or the LAN cable.

The only thing that seems different is their vs our router. Theirs was on, ie powered up therefore broadcasting, but not connected to their modem. I did not turn it off because I didn't think about it while I was there. I am waiting on their decision as to what they want me to try next. My thinking is to replace the router.