

Re: Having problems adjusting to XP

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2006-02/msg00584.html>

- *From:* "Mike Hall \ (MS-MVP)" <mikehall@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 9 Feb 2006 09:42:51 -0500
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PD

When driving your car, you must have a helluva time.. worrying about the uneven spacing of spot welds along the underneath of the body, seemingly random wiring across the internals under the hood.. or do you just drive it?..

When you watch TV, does it bother you that there is not a 'domestic vacuum' access point in the back someplace where you can easily remove the dust from under the circuit boards, and why can't they neaten the wiring in there?.. you must have looked through the air vents on the casing at some time with the help of a flashlight..

It is one thing to like order in one's life, but there are extremes.. look behind your computer.. all those cables are still in place.. you haven't cut them off to neaten it all up because you know that if you do, it won't work anymore..

OK.. the same applies to Windows.. remove some of it, cut it off, delete it and guess what?.. no more computer, just a collection of parts, loosely assembled, sporting the most gross wiring mess inside..

Under normal operation, you should not know what is under the Windows hood.. the only way you can know is to go looking.. so apply that to everything in your house and see how far you get..

Just use the programs on the computer.. get enjoyment from them without worrying about the space they take up or the fact that there are repetitive lines within the programs code.. should I have told you that, about the repeating lines?..

XP is a great OS.. it needs far less user input than ever it's Win 9x cousins did.. my wife loved the old ones, tinkering around with this and that.. hell she had to tinker with it because it would not remain stable long enough to do shit with it.. since XP, she just uses the computer.. no more 'edit config.sys' or booting to DOS and running mem /c.. I asked her if she would like to go back to the old ways.. guess what her answer was?

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#2.. For info on user accounts and what the different ones do, see here..

http://www.microsoft.com/resources/documentation/windows/xp/all/proddocs/en-us/usercpl_overview

#3.. No, you are not keeping five copies of anything.. there is one physical storage area, the others just being links..

None of the above take up any appreciable space other than the ONE location where documents are stored, and that depends upon your own personal productivity..

Messing with XP's system files is one of the best ways to bring the OS to it's knees.. use applications, but do not go into the system unless you have a problem which compromises your system.. as things stand, the only problem is in your head..

These newsgroups are full of people who just don't know when to stop.. much of what is asked in these groups is USER ERROR.. oh, I know some will jump on me for that, but when I visit users who have problems, in over 50% of them, I can give a detailed road map of what they did to terminate normal operation.. then they start to listen to me and quit trying to defend what they originally said that they didn't do anyway..

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Mike Hall
MVP – Windows Shell/User

"P D Sterling" <pdsterling@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:EuVGF.8196\\$Nv2.599@xx](news:EuVGF.8196$Nv2.599@xx)

Giving you a brief bit of background, I have worked with computers and data processing since Mc Bee Keysort, if any of you know what that is.

Starting, I think, with Windows 98, we started having Desktop, which I gather is a kind of über root directory. OK, now I am XP, and with my directories collapsed as much as they can, I have

My Computer – which I understand
My Documents – which I understand, but disagree with
My Network Places – which I don't understand (see below*)
Recycle – which I understand but don't use

*Let me be perfectly clear: I am one little computer, lost in the cosmos, with only one operator. I am the administrator, I am

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all users,
I am the default user. I am not connected to a network,
except being
connected to my ISP, if that counts. There is no wi-fi,
high-five, or
any other state-of-the-art enhancements.

I am very jealous of the amount of disk space given over to
keeping
things which I do not need, and keep an incredibly small
amount of data
on the C:\ drive, and I like simplicity. As an example, I have
one icon
on my desktop.

Question 1: How can I learn about Network Places, and
possibly get rid
of them?

My Computer contains My Documents and
*MyName*Documents.

Question 2: Why?

In My Computer, C:\ contains

- 1) Administrator 1,
- 2) Administrator 2,
- 3) Administrator 3,
- 4) All Users,
- 5) Default User,
- 6) *MyName*

All of these folders contain

- 1) Application Data
- 2) Cookies
- 3) Local Settings
- 4) Templates

Question 3: Why?

According to my calculations, there are five instances of My
Documents
of one flavor or another. If I am keeping five copies of a
document, I
want to stop.

I know this is a very long message, but this is a very
complicated
situation, and one which aggravates me. Any advice would
be gratefully
appreciated.

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Regards,

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