

Re: change the brightness without the fn key?

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2007-12/msg03497.html>

- *From:* "Shenan Stanley" <newshelper@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 17 Dec 2007 16:03:19 -0600
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Entire thread:

http://groups.google.com/group/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/browse_frm/thread/6093de44399f0405/4865de67

Donald L McDaniel wrote:

I suggest using Logitech Bluetooth devices. Their drivers are excellent, and you will have little trouble with mice or keyboards which constantly disconnect.

Dell makes crappy keyboards and mice: Use Logitech instead.

*** This is NOT an advertisement, BTW. It is the result of many years of experimentation with various input solutions, including Dell. ***

Shenan Stanley wrote:

Although I second the recommendation for Logitech Mice and Keyboards (bluetooth or not) --> I do have to wonder what brought the topic of "Bluetooth" up...

The OP original said, "The Keyboard on my Dell laptop broke." So they have a Dell Laptop – which would come with Dell parts/Dell keyboard...

Later you find out **why** the keyboard 'broke', "... cleaned out the milk my son spilled on the keyboard ..." So it was an accident that likely broke the keyboard and perhaps other components inside the laptop (liquids and computers – I would not recommend putting them together. hah)

Finally they state they are using an external USB keyboard with it – which supposedly solves the issue to their current satisfaction. I can see why you **might** recommend they utilize a Bluetooth keyboard at this point (as an alternative to having to plug

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something in each time – just make sure the Bluetooth is on if available.)

However – in this case – it would do them no good. They state later in the thread they have a Dell Inspiron 1300 laptop – and that model does not/did not have an internal Bluetooth option available... Therefore they would still have to purchase a dongle/something to plug into the computer in order to utilize Bluetooth instead of a USB/wireless USB device. (In other words – they gain little in getting a Bluetooth device over some wireless USB device in this case.)

Is there something about having a bluetooth device as opposed to a wireless (or wired) device in this case that makes bluetooth a better alternative?

Donald L McDaniel wrote:

Actually, Shenan, I agree with you. I prefer wireless USB connections over Bluetooth. And for a simple reason: because I had so much trouble with Microsoft over a Bluetooth keyboard/mouse.

Sometime ago, I bought my first Bluetooth keyboard, the Microsoft Desktop Elite for Bluetooth, to replace my old worn-out Microsoft Wireless Desktop Elite (USB). It failed to work right out of the box, because the Bluetooth dongle they provided with it did not get a good electrical connection to my computer.

So I simply put it on the shelf, and continued to use my worn-out Microsoft Wireless Desktop Elite (USB).

After a couple of years, I bought a Logitech USB desktop set (the MX3200), which worked great. However, the keys were too small, as well as the LCD display, so I bought a Logitech MX5000 Desktop Set for Bluetooth. Man, that was a GREAT keyboard. I used it happily a minimum of 8hrs per day, with absolutely no problems (except for one: the keyboard required battery changes very often.)

When Microsoft called me out of the blue to inform me they were replacing my unusable Bluetooth keyboard/mouse (I had called MS Support a few months earlier, finally, to get this loose end tied up), I about pissed my pants. They replaced it with a Microsoft Wireless Laser 6000 v.2 USB set. And I gave the Logitech Bluetooth set to another brother.

Anyway, I love Logitech keyboards and mice.

Thanks.

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I was just curious if you were pushing Bluetooth devices over other wireless/wired types. My experience with some bluetooth devices (Kensington was the last Bluetooth beast to bite me) has been less than favorable – although some of that can also be attributed to the system and its bluetooth support. Always learning – so if I see someone with a differing opinion – I find it is better to ask why they have that opinion than to continue with a closed mind and never change mine... Especially in the world of computing.

In any case– I agree 100% about Logitech mice/keyboards and thanks again for clarifying!

Shenan Stanley
MS–MVP

How To Ask Questions The Smart Way
<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

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