

Re: gift of new computer – should I switch or maintain 2 units

Source:

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From: Jim Macklin (*p51mustang[threeX12]*)

Date: 10/18/04

Date: Mon, 18 Oct 2004 15:46:03 -0500

Both computers have USB 1.1, but you can add a USB 2.0 combo card and add Firewire and USB 2.0 to both using only one PCI slot.

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The people think the Constitution protects their rights;
But government sees it as an obstacle to be overcome.

"R. C. White" <rc@corridor.net> wrote in message
news:eN6e31UtEHA.2808@TK2MSFTNGP14.phx.gbl...

| Hi, Mary.

|

| Lucky you! That sounds like a very nice new computer!

;<)

|

| A couple of key comparisons between old and new should
tell us most of what

| we need to know:

| Old: Intel Pentium 3 - 930 MHz -- I'm sure you mean 930
MHz

| New: Intel Pentium 4 - 2.4 GHz SSE2

|

| The Pentium 4 is much more capable than the Pentium 3, and
even if that were

| not true, 2.4 GHz is nearly 3 times as fast as 930 MHz,
since 1 GHz is a

| Billion Hertz, or 1,000 times the speed of 1 MHz, which is
a Million Hertz,

| so the comparison should be pretty clear.

|

| DVDs will hold 4.7 GB, typically, which is about 7 or 8
times as much as a

| CD, which typically holds about 700 MB. Again, a G is
about 1,000 M, so the

| comparison is clear. With the higher speed, plus the DVD
drive's ability to

| also easily read and write CDs, you gain a lot and lose
nothing with the DVD

| drive.

|

| USB 2.0 is only about 3 years old, so your old computer is
probably capable

| of only USB 1.1 unless you've added a card to it. As you
probably know, 2.0

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| is about 40 times as fast as 1.1, so your new one is definitely better.

|

| Since, as you said, "video editing is processor and hard drive intensive",

| your old computer probably would take hours to do a job that your new one

| can do in minutes. You would gain much more than "a little processing

| speed". You need a good printer, too. Parallel port is plenty fast, but

| you may like other improvements built into newer printers.

|

| I'm just one guy with one computer. I've never had a laptop or a network,

| so I won't even attempt to deal with those questions.

|

| RC

| --

| R. C. White, CPA

| San Marcos, TX

| rc@corridor.net

| Microsoft Windows MVP

|

| "Mary Fowler Leek" <mleek@arkwest.com> wrote in message

| news:OkPffAUtEHA.904@TK2MSF'TNGP11.phx.gbl...

| I have been given a:

|

| Dell Dimension 4600 w/ Windows XP home, Intel Pentium 4 - 2.4 GHz SSE2, 512

| mb ram, NVIDIA GeForce4 MX 440 (64 mb ram) w/ AGP8X, NEC DVD-RW dvd drive,

| DVD/CD drive, floppy drive, built in network and SoundMax Integrated Digital

| Audio card.

|

| I currently use a:

|

| Dell Dimension 4100 w/ Windows XP home, Intel Pentium 3 - 930 GHz, 512 mb

| ram, NVIDIA GeForce2, CD-RW drive, DVD/CD Rom drive, floppy, network card,

| iEEE 1395 firewird card and Creative SB Live! audio card. This computer is

| networked with an IBM laptop here at home, where we share the DSL internet

| connection.

|

| I have an old monitor attached to the gift computer but this gift computer

| is not networked with our home network. One day, I'd like to work with

| archiving our old video tapes and move the 8mm and Hi8 movies onto digital

| media. Would your advice be to move to the new computer now or just keep it

| in reserve to use with future digital video work? I've no idea how soon I

| can do the video work, probably months down the road. I know video editing

| is processor and hard drive intensive so maybe a dedicated computer would be

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| best to use. I would have to either switch the firewire
card or purchase and
| install another card in the gift computer if I keep two
computers.
|
| Is one computer superior over the other? I'm not sure what
I'd gain by
| moving, other than a little processing speed. I'm not
certain if my old
| computer uses USB 1 or 2. If USB 1, I guess that would be
an advantage to
| moving. It's been so long since I purchased the old
computer, I've forgotten
| what USB speed it recognizes. This is what it says in the
device manager
| list: Intel(R) 8280 1BA/BAM USB Universal Host Controller.
|
| I do have a color laser that uses a parallel port. It is
slow. Would
| purchasing a USB 2 connector switch to use with the
printer help speed up
| the printing process? If so, that would be an advantage of
changing
| computers.
|
| Would you guys who are technically knowledgable please
comment as to the
| benefits of moving?
|
| Is there a problem with running two different Windows XP
home installations?
| The person who gave me the computer uses Windows 2000 on
his computer.
|
|
| My sincere thanks for your help.
|
| Mary
| mary at arkwest.com
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