

Re: Puzzled by strange behavior

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup_deployment/2006-10/msg00204.htm

- *From:* Wes Groleau <groleau+news@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 20 Oct 2006 02:43:11 GMT
-

Shenan Stanley wrote:

Wes Groleau wrote:

In my house now are three Pentium towers.

Comp. A: 1.5 GHz, 32 MB RAM, 40 GB HD

Comp. B: 1.5 GHz, 128 MB RAM, 40 GB HD

Comp. C: 551 MHz, 128 MB RAM, 200 GB HD

[After fresh installs of the O.S., A & B perform

>> reasonably well but C is a three-toed sloth]

What might cause this slowdown? 266 MHz machines on dialup
are faster than this thing!

I have to ask... Are you sure about those specifications?

Those are the numbers reported by Windows in the System
control panel and the C: properties.

First – the ram is crippling every one of them.

I say again: A & B both perform reasonably well.
This surprised me, too, but it's an observed fact.
They are not crippled.

Second – the slowest computer has an unusually (and likely unsupported) large hard drive.

It's _labeled_ 200 GB but Windows says it's less.

Re: Puzzled by strange behavior

The difference is more than I would expect from formatting overhead. But it is definitely bigger than the 128 GB limit of older IDE controllers.

For Windows XP – I recommend 512MB+ memory. 256MB minimum really. Sure – it'll install on less, but run like a crippled wet yak.

Your recommendation is noted and is in my future plans. But the puzzle still exists: Why, with one-third the CPU speed, the same memory, and much more disk space, does C run at FAR LESS than a third the speed of B? And why is A just as fast as B with one-quarter of the memory?

Someone gave me a good idea for the first question: SQL Express, Visual Studio Express, FireFox, Office, and Opera, even though not _apparently_ running may have TSRs intended to speed up their launching when they are invoked. A & B do not have those items installed.

I still have no clue how A manages to seem normal with only 32 Meg. Maybe the motherboard had RAM built in?

—
Wes Groleau

I've been framed! ...
<http://www.useit.com/alertbox/9612.html>