

Bytes of Advice

Graduation Gift Ideas

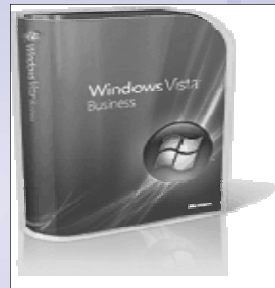
- Lenovo 3000N Series Laptop, Intel Core Duo processor T2350 (1.8GHz); 1 GB RAM; 120 GB 5400 RPM HD; 15.4" screen; DVD+/-RW drive; Windows XP Pro; 1 Yr. Warranty \$1095.70
- Lenovo Messenger Carrying Case \$29.00
- Lenovo 2 year warranty upgrade \$97.50
- USB Flash drive prices have dropped significantly. These make great graduation gifts. A 512MB Lexar Lightning drive is now available for \$33.49. Call for other sizes and prices.

Please call 573-4821 for specs and other pricing information.

Windows Vista On the Scene

Are you in the market for a new computer or laptop? Most quotes offer Microsoft's latest operating system, Windows Vista, instead of Windows XP. The new operating system is available in several versions:

- Windows Vista Home Basic: Very similar to Windows XP, though some features are improved. Vista offers better built-in support options.
- Windows Vista Home Premium: Offers scheduled backup to automatically backup files & Aero graphics not available on Home Basic. You can also make DVDs with Windows DVD Maker. The operating system adds three new games, and allows you to create high defini-



Windows Vista recently became available for PC users

- tion movies with Windows Movie Maker and experience photos and entertainment with Windows Media Center and extenders.
- Windows Vista Business: Has all of the features of Home Premium except the extra games, DVD Maker, and Movie Maker in HD. Adds a Remote

Desktop Connection and protects against hardware failure with Windows Complete PC Backup and Restore. Also includes Windows Fax and Scan.

- Windows Vista Ultimate: Includes all the features of both Home Premium and Business versions, and protects your data with Windows BitLocker Drive Encryption.

One concern that arises is whether or not you can run the software you already have in Vista. Windows includes a feature called Compatibility Mode. If your software won't install or run, you can right click on the application's .exe file, select properties, select the Compatibility tab, and choose the operating system you were on before.

Computer Housekeeping: Temporary Files

Each time you browse the Internet, Internet Explorer saves some of the content of the pages you visit on the hard drive. These temporary files (or cache) make it faster to access the web site the next time you visit, but also take up space on your hard drive. To delete these temporary files

using Internet Explorer 6, select the tools menu, select Internet Options, and delete Temporary Internet files. You may want to make sure "Delete all offline content" is checked. If the Temporary Internet Files folder is large, this process may take several minutes to finish. Cookies are

files that are written to your computer about you and your visits to web pages. You can view these files by selecting tools, Internet Options, Settings, and View Files.

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How much info?



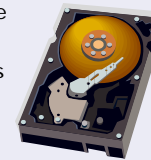
One floppy disk (1.44 MB) will hold the same amount of information as 1.125 books (all text) or 337 printed pages.

One 640 MB CD-Rom disk will hold the same amount of information as 444 floppy disks, 500 books (all text), or 150,000 printed pages!



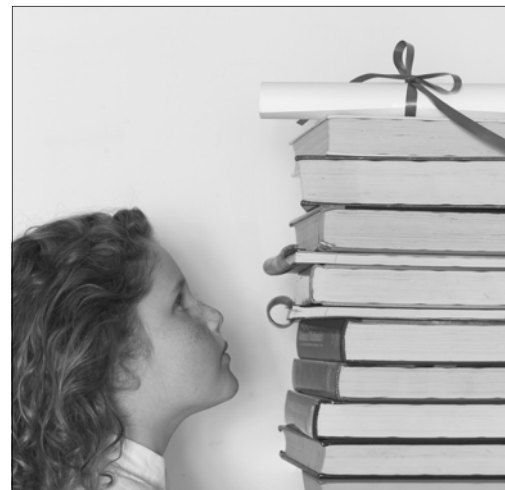
One 17GB DVD disk will hold the same amount of information as 11,805 floppy disks, 13,281 books (all text), or 3,984,000 printed pages!

One 80 GB Hard drive will hold the same amount of information as 55,555 floppy disks, 62,500 books (all text), or 18,750,000 printed pages!



Computer Housekeeping: Spyware and Adware

Anti-adware and/or anti-spyware programs are an important part of keeping your computer running smoothly. Spyware secretly monitors the actions of the computer user; those that are particularly malicious can steal passwords and personal data, recognizing when the user is performing transactions such as making a purchase. Adware allows the perpetrators to legally pass on web surfing information, which is why you may get the annoying pop-ups, or get redirected to other sites. The intent of Spyware is to defraud; Adware is less malicious, but still annoying. Both try to disguise the fact that they have been installed on your computer. Even MySpace video has been suspected of installing adware when played. Users are advised to install programs to seek out and remove Adware and Spyware. Visiting trusted technology websites such as www.cnet.com or www.zdnet.com can help you sort out what works and what doesn't. You can find links for downloading anti-malware software, and some of them are free. Never respond to an unsolicited pop-up that tells you to install these programs. And make sure your Windows updates and Antivirus definitions are up to date.



You could put the data contained in 500 books on one CD-Rom Disk. See story above for more storage information.