

TIPS & TRICKS

Volume 4, Issue 1
June 2008

FREE ANTI-SPYWARE OPTIONS

Spyware is software that when installed on your machine can secretly track your surfing habits, individual keystrokes, downloads, email addresses, passwords and credit card information as well as gather other personal information that can be used by a third party.

Spyware can cause your computer to slow to a crawl, stop legitimate software from working correctly, make your operating system become unstable or unusable and destroy your data.

Spyware protection for your home or business pc today is an absolute necessity, but you do really need to buy an annual subscription every year to stay protected?

We researched the many options available and came up with three programs that were legitimate and didn't cause a slow down on the com-

puter itself. Here are the pros & cons:

AVG is our top pick. It incorporates anti-virus and anti-spyware together in its free version. Updates and scans can be handled automatically and the program can be upgraded to the full suite at any time. AVG Free is not for commercial use and they offer no technical support. AVG can be found at www.grisoft.com.

SuperAntispyware is strictly an anti-spyware program, however, it aggressively detects and removes all types of Trojans, Keyloggers, Hijackers and other types of spyware threats. It's non-invasive to the computer and it can be upgraded at any time. It does not update automatically and scans must be done manually. It can be downloaded at www.superantispyware.com.

Windows Defender is Microsoft's free spyware protection software. While it not as



comprehensive as AVG or SuperAntispyware, we felt that it warranted mentioning. It features real-time protection, automatic updates, it was easy to use, and Microsoft offers two free support incidents for Windows XP and Server 2003, a feature most free versions don't offer. To get Windows Defender go to www.microsoft.com.

No matter whether you have a free version or a paid version, Anti-spyware is a must have for every computer that connects to the Internet.

Inside this issue:

FREE ANTI-SPYWARE OPTIONS	1
WINDOWS XP SP 3	2
REMOTE SUPPORT TOOL	2
GOOGLE CALENDAR	2



ALL ABOUT COMPUTERS
BOCA RATON, FL 33432
PHONE 561-322-8442

EMAIL:
SUPPORT@ALLABOUTCOMPUTERS.COM
WEBSITE:
WWW.ALLABOUTCOMPUTERS.COM

WINDOWS XP SERVICE PACK 3

In May this year, Windows Updates began offering Service Pack 3. It is the final Service Pack for the Windows XP operating System. SP3 is available for download for all the versions of XP except the x64 version.

This update includes all the patches and fixes that have been released since SP2 which was released in late 2004.

There are no major operating system changes or updates included in SP3, but it does contain a few new features, such

as NAP (Network Access Protection) and "Black Hole" Router Detection, both which are already currently available in the Vista Operating Systems.

There have been some issues and concerns, mainly for machines manufactured by HP and possibly others with the AMD processors.

These machines have seen crashes as well as spontaneous rebooting after having installed the service pack.

The accepted work around for this

problem has been to download the ISO image of the update and burn it to CD rather than installing it from Windows Updates.

SP3 requires that SP1 be installed prior to downloading this update and Microsoft does recommend SP2 be installed first.

Microsoft will begin phasing out Windows XP entirely at the end of June 2008.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.ALLABOUTCOMPUTERS.COM
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ARCHIVED COPIES OF
"TIPS & TRICKS"

REMOTE SUPPORT TOOL

With the price of gas, rent, groceries and other everyday needs skyrocketing, its nice to see that not everything is getting more expensive.

All About Computers offers clients a quicker and cost effective alternative support option called the "Remote Support Tool".

This tool, when used with your permission, temporarily allows one of our qualified technicians to remotely access your system to resolve many issues that previously required a service technician to schedule on-site appointment.

With this new option, our clients

no longer have to worry about scheduling their day around one of our computer technicians.

Let us show you how this new tool can help quickly and easily resolve your questions and issues.

GOOGLE CALENDAR

Google has a slam dunk with its new Google Calendar and sync software.

Google Calendar allows you to organize your schedule online and then share events with friends and family.

You decide who can see, manage and make changes to these events.

The sync software allows you to add or change the events in Outlook and

setup and automatic sync schedule with your online calendar.

You can also create invitations, set reminders and promote events.

There is even an option to setup mobile phone notifications for scheduled events.

The calendar has many viewing features including day, week or agenda

view.

There are custom color codes for all your shared calendars and a comment section for your guests to make notes.

If you're looking for an easy way to organize your personal or business schedule, try Google Calendar. For more information go to

calendar.google.com