

For Active
People
Ages 60+



Inside This
Issue

- Should You Upgrade 1
- An Easier Refresh 1
- Recycling Ideas & Facts 2
- All The Words Are Important 2
- New Words 2

Please:
recycle
this
publication!

Summer Edition Cyberspace News

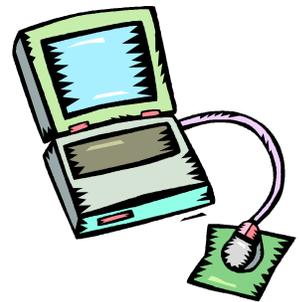
Should You Upgrade

For quite some time, based on the opinions of experts, we have advised against the use of the Internet Explorer browser. Internet Explorer used to be used in more than 90% of all personal computers, but it seems that expert opinion is being heard, because the browser is now used in fewer than 60%.

The next release of Internet Explorer, release 9, will not run in Windows versions older than Vista, which means that it will not run in Windows XP. That in turn means that as of April, 2010 it will not run in *two thirds* of all personal computers.

Speculation is that the refusal

to make IE9 compatible with Windows XP is a Microsoft move to encourage migration from Windows XP to their newest operating system, Windows 7. Since it's best to avoid IE altogether, there is no need to "upgrade" if you're using Windows XP and are happy with it (as are almost all its users).



Special thanks, as always, to Bill Shapiro for writing this informative and potentially money-saving article!

An Easier Refresh

We've all faced it: a Web page that takes forever to load. So you keep hitting the Refresh button until A) you hurt your finger clicking your mouse or B) data from the site's server appears.

The next time a page takes a

long time to load, try hitting F5 instead of clicking Refresh. This should automatically reload the page with much less effort on your part!

Source: www.smartcomputing.com

Recycling Ideas & Facts

When I was growing up, the term “reusing” meant “not having enough money to buy something new.” You can reuse many household items including:

- ✿ Empty cereal boxes can be decorated and turned into storage boxes.
- ✿ Empty glass jars are great for storing small items. Or decorate them and fill them for a unique gift idea.
- ✿ Empty soda and detergent bottles can be used by the grandkids to use as water or sand toys.

And did you know that recycling one soda can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours? Or that recycling a stack of newspapers 10 feet tall saves one whole tree? Well now you know!

All The Words Are Important

When you have a computer problem and call a technical support representative or an expert friend, (s)he cannot be of much help if you provide only vague, incomplete, or inaccurate information. For instance, it’s important to note the *full* and *exact* wording of any error messages. The difference of even one word sometimes makes a great difference.

Also try to note things such as 1) what you were doing or were trying to do, immediately before the message appeared, 2) what programs were running, and 3) what you did in response to the message.

Two examples:

- An error message that “said it couldn’t open a file” is descriptive but incomplete: Did it give a reason (such as for instance, “access is denied”)? Did it

specify an error code or number?

- “I shut down the computer” lacks some important information: Were you able to shut down Windows normally, or did you have to switch the computer power off? If you shut down normally, did you see any messages during the shutdown process? If you did see a message, *exactly* what did it say?

So in summary: The more and better information you can provide, the better your chances of having your problem solved.

Thanks to Bill Shapiro for another wonderful article.

Editor’s Note: And when reporting a computer problem, don’t be afraid that you’re going to sound stupid. The people who work at Tech Support, like most doctors, have heard everything!

New Words

Since learning new things has been proven to keep the mind young and active, here are some words you may not have known before, courtesy of the website www.freerice.com:

- ☆ Leitmotif—a recurring theme
- ☆ Menhir—an upright stone monument
- ☆ Enfranchise—to give the right

to vote

- ☆ Lenity—clemency
- ☆ Addlepatented—confused
- ☆ Dendroid—tree-like
- ☆ Logorrhea—talkativeness
- ☆ Burin—an engraving tool

