

Learn To Use Your Computer

My first computer was a 286 computer with 4 Meg of ram and a 40 Meg hard drive; Yes, I did say a 40 MEG hard drive. I bought this computer in 1991 for \$1200 at a time when a state of the art 486 computer sold for over \$3500. Honestly, I was lucky though, my first computer had Windows 3.1 loaded on it and it only took 6 floppy disks to reload the computer back to a like new condition. More importantly though what made all of the difference is that Windows 3.1 had most of the important software drivers built into the operating system, such as sound and video drivers. Simplicity, that's what was one of the greatest attributes of Windows 3.1. On the other hand, simplicity is also the reason an upgrade to Windows 95 was important. Windows 3.1 lacked essential capability to perform the newest applications on the market at the time, such as 3D games and high-resolution charts.

Ahhh, the good ole' days. I remember them well... Jon Bon Jovi, IZOD, and a super cool state-of-the-art computer. Well, maybe my 286 computer with 4 megs of ram and a 40 meg hard drive wouldn't be considered cool by today's standards (in fact, I'm not so sure that "cool" is even the correct term – I guess I should say "phat"). Anyway, where was I? Oh yes, my super-phat computer.

Looking back today, I realize that \$1200 got me little more than a glorified word processor! But the seed was planted, as lame as it all seems now I was hooked. I graduated Karns High School in 1991 and it was that next fall that I entered college. I took a computer class the first semester but ultimately I realized that I was able to learn and retain more simply by playing with the system. Sure I messed it up a few times, but that's how I learned.

Honestly, that's the only way you will be able to learn. Learning to use a computer is similar to learning how to drive. You can study the driver license manual; you can even take Drivers ED in high school and listen to a teacher talk about driver rules and regulations. But ultimately the only way your going to become a good driver is to get behind the wheel and drive. Sure, you'll probably scare the heck out of a couple of pedestrians, but that's part of the learning process. Learning how to use a computer uses many of the same idea. You can take as many classes as you want, but until you get behind the keyboard you will never be able to learn from your mistakes. The good news is when you "Crash" your computer it will never be as dangerous to you or others compared to "Crashing" your car!

Please e-mail or call Thomas or Roger with any questions or problems that you are having with your computer system at sales@computerdepotonline.com or stop by and visit with us at 6545 Clinton Hwy across from Chik-fil-A.