

WINDOWS 7 - TIPS



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Also see: Lifehacker's "Complete Guide to Windows 7":

<http://www.lifehacker.com.au/2009/10/lifehackers-complete-guide-to-windows-7/>

<http://www.winsupersite.com/win7/>

ACCESSING RESTRICTED FOLDERS: See the write-up in my TROUBLESHOOTING WINDOWS 7 under "ACCESS IS DENIED".

ACCOUNT SETTINGS SHORTCUT: Click Start > then your Account picture.

ACTIVATE WINDOWS 7 (*Control Panel > System and Security > System*), then scroll to bottom of the window, or search for: **slui**

AUTOPLAY~AUTORUN (disable):

- To turn this off, go to (*Control Panel > Hardware and sound > Autoplay*) and un-check the box for: Use Autoplay for all Media and devices", then click "Save".
- To "Really" turn off Autoplay, install and run the "Ultimate Windows Tweaker" utility program. (see my UTILITY PROGRAMS sheet for details). In the left column, click "Security Settings", then check the box: Disable autoplay for removable devices".

BACKUP's: To do a Windows 7 full image back-up of your system to an external Hard-drive, click (*Control Panel > System and security > Backup and restore center > "Create a system image"*).

BROWSER CACHE SIZE (Firefox 3 & IE8). A highspeed connection allows the Browser cache to be small, which reduces the number of temporary files stored. Verify the cache is set below 100 MB. I like 50MB.

- FIREFOX: *Tools > Options > Advanced > Network tab > set Cache to 50 MB > click OK.*
- IE8: *Tools > Internet Options > General tab > under Browsing History: click Settings > select 50 MB > click OK.*

CHKDSK: TO ERROR CHECK THE HARD-DRIVES, run this on all your hard-drives 2 or 3 times a year: (*Note: Drive X represents your drive of choice*)

- **RUN CHKDSK:** (*double-click the Computer icon > right-click Icon for Drive X: > Properties > Tools Tab*). Then, under Error-checking, click <Check Now>. Choose Automatically fix errors" & Scan for and attempt recovery of bad sectors", then click "Schedule disk check" > OK. To scan drive C, you will have to restart the PC and the scan will run during the boot.
- **CHKDSK LOG:** To find the log from a CHKDSK Scan: (*Right-click the Computer icon > Manage > Event Viewer > Windows Logs > Application*). Double-click the "Wininit" entry for the date and time of the scan in question. Click on the "Details tab" to see the event data that you are looking for.

CLOCK - Change to 24 hour Format

- (*Control Panel > Clock Language and Region > Region & Language*). On the Formats tab, click the "Long time" down arrow and select a Format. Do the same for the "Short time" box. Choose settings as follows:
24 hours = H:mm or HH:mm (H=no leading zeros. HH=leading zeros. :ss=displays seconds)
12 hours = h:mm tt or hh:mm tt (tt adds AM/PM. Note: AM/PM can be added to 24hour format too)
- For even more control, click "Additional settings > Time tab".

COMMAND PROMPT ICON: This must be set this up to automatically "Run as Administrator". First, find the Command Prompt in the Start Menu. Right click on it, and click "Pin to Start Menu". Then: (*Right click on the new Command Icon > Properties > Shortcut tab. Click the <Advanced> button and select Run as Administrator".*)

CUSTOMIZING WINDOWS 7 Be sure to see my "INSTALL, SETUP, & CUSTOMIZE WINDOWS 7" Checklist for many good ideas on solving many WINDOWS 7 issues.

DEFRAG

- To speed up a Defrag, do a system restart first (*to clear the swap file*) then:
- Use the Command Prompt. This is the only way to get a report. Here are the commands:
 - defrag c: -a -v gives you an analysis and a report
 - defrag c: -w -v gives you a full defrag and a report
 - defrag c: - ? gives you a list of all available options
- To disable Windows 7's automatic background defragging: (*double-click Computer > right-click Drive C > Properties > Tools Tab > click Defragment now button > Configure schedule*). Un-check the box: " Run on a schedule". Click <OK>, <Close>, <OK> to exit).
- The JKDEFRAG Utility works great with Windows 7.
- So does **AUSLOGICS DEFRAG** (XP & WINDOWS 7)
<http://www.snapfiles.com/reviews/auslogics-disk-defrag/adiskdefrag.html>

DESKTOP:

- "SHOW DESKTOP" ICON: This has been replaced in Windows 7 by a tiny unlabeled rectangle in the far far lower Right-hand corner of the screen. The far far right of the Taskbar. Can't find it. Look again. No text, no label, just a blank rectangle the same color as the taskbar.
- CUSTOMIZE A FOLDER ICON IMAGE: You can change the Icon Image for most folders Icons by (*Right-clicking the Icon > Properties > Customize Tab > Change Icon button*). Select an Icon and click <OK>, <OK>. The new Icon Image should be there.
- MORE BACKGROUND IMAGES/THEMES: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows/downloads/personalize>

DRIVERS: CREATE A LIST OF INSTALLED DRIVERS

Run the 'driverquery' command. Open the Command Prompt and type 'driverquery'. The output will present you with a list of installed drivers. There are also a number of parameters you can run with the command that include:

- driverquery /FO - Specifies the type of output to display. Valid values to be passed with the switch are "Table," "List," and "CSV."
- driverquery /V - Displays detailed information. Not valid for signed drivers.
- driverquery /SI - Provides information about signed drivers.
- driverquery /? - Displays Help information.
- driverquery /FO table > DriverList.txt - Creates a text file with the list.

To backup installed drivers prior to reinstall of Windows 7, try "drivermax" or 'driverbackup". Both are free programs. See my UTILITY PROGRAMS sheet for details.

EASY TRANSFER UTILITY: See the section below on "Migrating from XP".

FOLDER OPTIONS

- MAKE FILE EXTENSIONS VISIBLE: (*Control panel > Appearance and Personalization > Folder Options*). Go the View tab and un-check the box " Hide Extensions for known file types".
- ADD XP STYLE TOOLBAR ONTO ALL OPEN WINDOWS (File Edit View etc) On any open window, click (*Organize > Layout > click to check Menu Bar*).

FONTS: To print a sample page of a given Font, do the following: Go to C:\windows\fonts\ and open the desired font file. Click the <Print> button on the upper LH corner of the window.

WINDOWS 7 - TIPS



GADGETS

- To access gadgets: (*Right-click Desktop > Gadgets*) or (*Control Panel > Appearance & Personalization > Desktop Gadgets*) Click and Drag the desired gadget to the Desktop.
- Always on Top option: You must activate this for each gadget separately. Right-click the desired gadget and click "Always on top".

GENERAL INFO ON WINDOWS 7: <http://www.winsupersite.com/>

HIBERNATE OPTIONS

- a. To activate Hibernate: Hibernation is active by default. If you have somehow disabled it, you must use a Command Prompt window (Running as administrator). Enter: `powercfg -h on`
- b. To get directly back to the Desktop after wakeup (from sleep or hibernate) without using a password: (*Control Panel > System and Security > "Require a password when the computer wakes"*). Select: "Ⓞ Don't require a password".)
- c. To get the PC to Hibernate (instead of Sleep) when you close the lid on the laptop (*Control Panel > System and Security > Power Options > "Choose what closing the lid does"*).

INSTALL "WINDOWS 7" FROM A USB DRIVE:

- INSTALL "WINDOWS 7" MANY TIMES FROM A USB DRIVE: <http://windowssecrets.com/paid/100107/#woody0>.
Note: A paid subscription to windowssecrets.com is required to access this webpage

INTERNET EXPLORER 8 (IE8) Secure & customize:

- **SECURE IE8:** (*Go to Tools > Internet Options > General Tab*).
 - 1) Under browsing History; Click the "Delete" button and make sure all items are checked except the first one: Preserve Favorites Website data".
 - 2) Now click the "Delete" button to exit the "Delete browsing History" Window.
 - 3) Wait a little, then click the box "Delete browsing history on exit". This should leave a check in the box. Click OK to exit.
- **VIEW MENU BAR:** Right-click in any empty space a little below the top of the IE window until a context menu box opens up offering the "option "Menu Bar". Click it & the Menu bar will appear" (File View Favorites Tools Help)
- **SET HOME PAGE:** (The default Home Page is www.msn.com). To change it to www.google.com , www.yahoo.com or some other desired page: First go to the desired website. Then (*click Tools > Internet Options > General tab*) Click the "Use current" button, then OK to exit.
- **SET CACHE SIZE:** (*Tools > Internet Options > General Tab*). Under Browsing History, click Settings & select 50MB
- **WOT:** Install the IE add-on called WOT. (Just Google WOT or go to WWW.MYWOT.COM).
- **TO RESET IE BACK TO FACTORY DEFAULTS.**
 - ✓ Open IE8 > Tools > Internet Options > Advanced Tab > click Reset.
 - ✓ On the Reset IE Settings window, select Reset > click OK. When done, click close & restart IE8.
- **SLOW TO START:** See my "Windows 7 troubleshooting"

INTERNET OPTIONS: "RESET TO DEFAULTS"

- Control Panel > Network and internet > Internet Options > Advanced Tab > click Reset.
- On the Reset IE Settings window, select Reset > click OK. When done, click Close.

KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

- **GENERAL:** <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows7/Keyboard-shortcuts>

- **FOR POWER**

Shutdown/Powerdown	<Ctrl/Esc>, →, U	
Hibernate	<Ctrl/Esc>, →, →, H	(Ignore the commas)
Restart	<Ctrl/Esc>, →, →, R	(Lower case is OK)
Switch User	<Ctrl/Esc>, →, →, W	(→ = Right-arrow Key)
Lock	<Ctrl/Esc>, →, →, O	
Logoff	<Ctrl/Esc>, →, →, L	

Note: <Ctrl/Esc> is the same as the "Windows" Key

LIBRARIES: See: <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2342844,00.asp>

MIGRATING FROM XP:

- First of all: Do NOT take an image backup of the old PC and try to put it on the new PC. You'll not only lose your Windows 7 installation, but you'll end up with an unbootable XP PC.
- You must either move your data files manually or use the Windows 7 Easy Transfer Utility.
- **WINDOWS 7 EASY TRANSFER UTILITY:**
 - 1) **GENERAL:** This Utility will not only move all your data, but will move all User Account information (including Browser favorites, etc) and will make the Desktop on your new Windows 7 PC look very much like your old XP Desktop.
 - 2) **CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PC'S:** There are three ways to use the Windows 7 Easy Transfer Utility: 1) You can use an "Easy Transfer USB Cable" [available from Amazon and other places], 2) Use a Network connection, or 3) Use a USB Drive (either a flash-drive or a hard-drive).
 - 3) **ENCRYPTED FOLDERS:** If you have XP-encrypted folders on the old PC, I suggest you un-encrypt them prior to starting this process. You can then make them encrypted again in Windows 7.
 - 4) **PASSWORDS:** If any User Accounts on the old PC have password protection, you will need enter those passwords during the migration process. If you already had a password on the Win 7 Account into which you migrated, it will remain the same. If you did not have a Password on the Win 7 Account, it will still not have one after the migration even if the Account on the old PC did have a password. You can add it manually if desired.
 - 5) **TUTORIAL:** This is a great step-by-step guide called: "Migrate XP to Windows 7 with Easy Transfer and a USB Drive": <http://www.howtogeek.com/howto/3179/migrate-xp-to-windows-7-with-easy-transfer-and-a-usb-drive/>
 - 6) **ACCESSING XP USER FILES ON THE OLD PC:** By default, the Easy Transfer utility will move the settings and files for all User Accounts on the old PC. If during the run on the old PC, you cannot access the "My Documents" folder (or other folders) of another User, you may have to run a separate pass of the Utility from that User ID to access those files. Also, if a "My Documents" folder on the old PC is set to "Private", you can either run the Easy Transfer Utility from that User ID or first change the status of that folder to not be private.
 - 7) **MAPPING USER ACCOUNTS:** On the new computer, when you get to the "Choose what to transfer" window, be sure to click the "Advanced Options" button and map the the User Account ID's for the new PC to what you want to happen. This tells the wizard which XP Account User settings go into which Windows 7 Account Names.
 - 8) **REPORTS:** When the Utility is done, it creates a report of what was transferred as well as a list of programs that you may need to install under Windows 7. If you want to look at the report later, enter this in the Start > Search box: Windows Easy Transfer Reports

NETWORKING: See "NETWORKING - TIPS" and "TROUBLESHOOTING WINDOWS 7" for networking info.

PASSWORD: RESET OR REMOVE A USER PASSWORD

- a. Log on to an Administrator Account
- b. Control Panel > "Add or remove user accounts" (Under "User account and Family Safety"). Choose the Account. Click: Remove the password.

PROBLEM STEPS RECORDER (PSR):

- a. <http://www.winhelponline.com/blog/using-problem-steps-recorder-psr-windows-7/>

PROGRAM FILE ASSOCIATIONS - CHANGE:

- a. To change one file type, (*Right-click the file > click "Open with" > click "Default Program"*). Select the desired program, make sure the box is checked for "Always use the selected program.....", then click OK.
- b. To set a program as the default for multiple file types, click (*Control Panel > Programs > Default Programs*), Select a program, and click "Set this Program as default."

QUICK LAUNCH ICONS (It is no longer called Quick Launch. Now it is just Taskbar)

To put Shortcuts into the Taskbar, right-click the desired Icon and click "Pin to taskbar". *Dragging won't do it.*

RECOVERY DVD's: CREATE HP SYSTEM RECOVERY DVD's

- To burn a 3-DVD set of Windows 7 System Recovery DVD's from the Recovery Partition: (Start > All Programs > PC Help & Tools > Recovery Disk Creation). *Note: You are only allowed to do this one time!* Using these Disks to recover will put the PC back the way it was when you bought it.

REGISTRY BACKUP The Windows 7 "regedit" program may not make reliable backups. You should download and install a free Registry backup utility. ERUNT is the best but does not yet run for Windows 7 (5-2009).

REPAIR DISK: (See SYSTEM REPAIR DISK)

RESTORE POINT: To create a Windows Restore point, click: (*Control Panel > System and Security > System > Advanced system settings > System Protection tab > Create*).

RUN COMMANDS:

- **DISPLAY THE RUN BOX:** To permanently display the Run Box in the Start Menu: (*Right-click Start Icon > Properties > Start Menu Tab > Customize*). Check the box: " Run command". Click OK, OK to exit.
- **MSCONFIG** - This opens the "System Configuration" Window, See the Startup tab. **NOTE: I DO NOT RECOMMEND THE USE OF MSCONFIG.** *I had recommended (Control Panel > Programs: Change startup options), but this feature appears to no longer be available in Win7. Use 3rd party startup managers like Codestuff Starter.*
- **IPCONFIG** - Network stuff. This will not run from the Run Box. It must be run from the Command Prompt window. For help, enter: `ipconfig /?` To see all addresses: `ipconfig /all`
- **RELI** - Win7 Reliability Monitor. (Maybe in the search box).
- **SFC /scannow** - Repairs system files. This will not run from the Run Box. It must be run from the Command Prompt window.

SOUNDS:

- How to make Windows 7 sound like XP. I have not found a quick way to do this, but my method does work for many of the sounds. Some Windows 7 sounds are fixed and cannot be modified even with a scheme change. (IE: Empty recycle bin or Windows Startup). Others can be changed individually:
 - On an XP system, go to the "C:\windows\media\" folder and copy all the .wav files into a folder named: XPSounds
 - Copy this folder to a flash drive, and then into the Windows 7 "C:\windows\media\" folder
 - Right-click on the Windows 7 Desktop, click Personalize > Sounds. Pick a sound, browse to the "C:\windows\media\XPSounds\" folder, and pick your XP sound of choice to customize.

SPYBOT SEARCH & DESTROY (*Be sure you have version 1.6.2 or higher*) ??????

- SpyBot needs to be opened in "Run as Administrator" mode. This is more than just running it in the Administrator Account. To permanently fix the SpyBot Shortcut Icon to run SpyBot as an Administrator in your regular User Account, do the following: (*Right-click the SpyBot Shortcut Icon > Properties > Shortcut Tab > Advanced. Then check the box: " Run as administrator". To exit: click <OK>, <OK>*).

START MENU CUSTOMIZATIONS: See my separate sheet on customizing the Windows 7 Start Menu.

STARTUP PROGRAMS & SERVICES MANAGEMENT

- It appears that Windows 7 no longer has a built-in program startup manager.
- See my chart at the end of this document for a guide to finding the "Startup" Folders.
- Registry Startups can be changed using the System Configuration Window. Either do Start > Run: msconfig (then the Startup Tab) or (*Control Panel > System and Security > Administrative Tools > System Configuration > Startup tab*).
- I prefer using a program called "Codestuff Starter" or Glary Utilities which allow me to manage all kinds of startups from one window. You can also use it to kill unwanted processes and Windows Services.

SERVICES THAT CAN BE DISABLED (Windows 7 Services):

- Go to this site: www.blackviper.com

SYSTEM REPAIR DISK "Windows 7 Repair Disk"

- To create a system repair disk: <http://pcsupport.about.com/od/windows7/ht/system-repair-disc-windows-7.htm>
- Note that if you choose download the disk image rather than burn it from inside Windows 7, you must choose the correct version for your system: 32 bit or 64 bit.

TASKBAR:

- **SHOW DESKTOP ICON:** This has been replaced in Windows 7 by a tiny unlabeled rectangle in the far far lower Right-hand corner of the screen. The far far right of the Taskbar. Can't find it. Look again. No text, no label, just a blank rectangle the same color as the taskbar.
- **TASKBAR ICON SIZE (increase)** (*includes Quick Launch and Notification Areas*) *This tip does not seem to work in Windows 7 RC1 like it did in XP. I left the info here in case I figure it out or they fix it in the final version:* (Control Panel > Appearance and Personalization > Personalization > Windows Color and Appearance > "Open classic appearance properties for more color options" Advanced button). You should be on the "Advanced Appearance" window. Select item: **Active Title Bar**. Set it anywhere from 22 thru 25 & hit OK. (Default is 18). *Note: The bigger you make the ICONS, the blockier and more misshapen they get, but they are easier to see.*

THEMES:

- How to unlock hidden Themes: <http://arstechnica.com/microsoft/guides/2009/11/unlock-hidden-windows-7-themes.ars>
- More themes: <http://windows7news.com/2009/10/25/new-official-windows-7-international-themes-and-wallpapers/>

UPGRADE INFO

- Upgrade Advisor:
 - ✓ Can your old XP PC run Windows 7? To find out, download and run the "Microsoft Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor" utility: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows-7/upgrade-advisor.aspx>
 - ✓ "Maximum PC" Magazine Windows 7 Upgrade Guide: http://www.maximumpc.com/article/features/windows_7_upgrade_guide_all_your_questions_answered?EMC-R3A917316679
- Vista to Windows 7 Upgrade Chart: <http://www.hardocp.com/image.html?image=MTI0OTU5OTgyMml1bDJqRXN4QUZfMV8xX2wuanBn>

USER ACCOUNTS

- **UAC - User Account Control:** (NOTE: By default, Windows 7 UAC is not as intrusive as Vista UAC)
 1. **MODIFY UAC BEHAVIOR:** UAC behavior can be controlled in Windows 7. (*Control Panel > User Accounts and Family Safety > User Accounts > "Change User Account Control settings"*). Move the slider to suit your tolerance for risk.
 2. **TURN OFF UAC:** Unless you are a Power User or crazy, leave UAC turned on. To turn off UAC, go to: (*Control Panel > User Accounts and Family Safety > User Accounts > "Change User Account Control settings"*), and move the slider all the way down to "Never Notify".
- **COPY A USER PROFILE:** (*Right-click Computer > Properties > Advanced System Settings > Advanced tab*). Under User Profiles, click the <Settings> button. NOTE: Both the "From" and "To" users must be logged off. You may have to temporarily add another User Account to do this, then delete it. See my tips on this in my XP TIPS sheet. It is pretty much the same.
- **CUSTOMIZE THE DEFAULT USER PROFILE:** See: <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/973289>
- **ADVANCED USER MANAGEMENT:** (*Start, Run: control userpasswords2*). Advanced tab > under "Advanced User management", click the <Advanced> button to manage Users and Groups. The control userpasswords2 command also gives advanced user password management. You can use it to reset user passwords. NOTE: You should be in an Administrative Account to run this. You can run this command from the Command prompt or from the Run box.
- **SECURE LOGON** (requires <Ctrl-Alt-Del> to logon). To turn this off or on: (*Start, Run: control userpasswords2*). Go to Advanced tab > Advanced button.
- **CONFIGURE ADVANCED USER PROFILE PROPERTIES:** (*Control Panel > User Accounts and Family Safety > User Accounts > "Configure Advanced User Profile Properties"*).

UTILITIES UNIQUE TO WIN 7

- **PROBLEM STEPS RECORDER.** To launch, press Start Icon, type: psr and press Enter. Click Start Recorder and redo the steps that led to the problem. PSR records every mouse click and key press.
- **SYSTEM RESTORE PREVIEW:** To use this feature, press the Windows key, type system restore, and press Enter. When the applet opens, select a restore point and click "Scan for affected programs". A list of the files that will be deleted, added, or changed by the action will be displayed for you to review before committing to that particular restore point.
- **POWERCFG: Power Efficiency Calculator.**
 - ✓ Press the Windows key, type cmd, right-click cmd.exe, and click Run as administrator. Type powercfg -energy at the command line. Powercfg scans your system and saves its findings in the System32 folder by default as an HTML file named Energy-Report.html.
 - ✓ To open the file, press the Windows key, type energy-report.html, and click or double-click the resulting file. Using Powercfg and deciphering its test results can be tricky. For information on Powercfg's reports, a How-To Geek article goes into more detail.

VIRTUAL PC (See XP Virtual Machine below)

WALLPAPER:

- To access international Wallpaper images:
<http://www.howtogeek.com/howto/3476/access-international-themes-in-windows-7/>

WEI SCORE:

- Fix low hard-drive WEI scores:
<http://www.blogsdna.com/2133/fix-low-hard-drive-windows-experience-index-wei-score-in-windows-7.htm>
- How to change/fake WEI scores (*For bragging uses only*)
<http://www.blogsdna.com/4075/how-to-change-fake-windows-experience-index-on-windows-7.htm>

WELCOME CENTER (GETTING STARTED) (includes a Windows Windows 7 Tutorial)


- To access the Welcome center: (*Control Panel > click view by: Large Icons or Small Icons > Getting Started*) or search: *getting started*.
- To stop the Welcome Center from opening after each boot-up. Wait until you have booted the system at least twice, then uncheck the box: " Run at Startup" at the lower left corner of the Welcome Center.

WHAT'S NEW IN WINDOWS 7?

- Check out this link : <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows-7/whats-new.aspx>
- Check this also: <http://www.winsupersite.com/win7/ff.asp>
- Check this also: <http://forums.guru3d.com/showthread.php?p=3154600>

WINDOWS FIREWALL - ADVANCED SECURITY: This is for experienced users only. (*Control Panel > System and Security > Administrative tools > Windows Firewall with Advanced Security*).

WINDOWS LIVE MAIL (excerpt from an article by Woody Leonhard from windowssecrets.com)

- Making the switch to Windows Live Mail: If you prefer to continue to rely on Microsoft for free e-mail, Windows Live Mail is your only choice. Windows Live Mail looks a lot like Outlook Express and Windows Mail, but underneath the covers it's considerably more complex and more robust. The program runs fine in XP, Vista, and Windows 7. More importantly, Microsoft actually supports Windows Live Mail. Novel idea, 
- Here's how to add Windows Live Mail to your PC without gumming it up with the other "Live Essentials" junk — which is neither Live nor Essential, by the way:
 - ✓ Step 1. Go to Microsoft's Windows Live Essentials download site and click the Download button.
 - ✓ Step 2. Double-click the downloaded installer and select the box marked Windows Live Mail. Deselect all of the others, unless you want a specific program (Live Photo Gallery ain't half bad). Click Continue.
 - ✓ Step 3. When the installer comes up for air, it has the audacity to ask whether you would mind if Microsoft hijacks your browser's default search provider (did I hear a loud "Bing" out there?) and resets your browser's home page. Uncheck all the boxes and click Continue.
 - ✓ Step 4. The installer then asks whether you have a Windows Live ID. Get one if you don't have one already — remember that you don't have to provide Microsoft with any personal information that you prefer not to share, and creativity counts. Finally, click Close and Windows Live Mail will be ready to run.
- The first time you open Windows Live Mail, the program offers to import your contacts and old messages. Most of the time, the import is successful.
- Keep in mind that installing Windows Live Mail doesn't uninstall your old e-mail program. If WLM fails to pick up contacts or e-mail messages from OE or WM, take a look at a post on the Windows Live forum for a tip on clicking and dragging mail from Outlook Express to Windows Live Mail.
- What to do if the transition falls to pieces
 - ✓ So what do you do if you install Windows Live Mail and you can't live with it? Surprisingly, uninstalling WLM is relatively easy via Windows' Add or Remove Programs applet in the Control Panel. (In Vista, the applet is called Programs and Features.) If you encounter any problems, check Microsoft Knowledge Base article 938275 for possible solutions.
 - ✓ Windows Live Mail uses .eml files. Surprisingly, Outlook Express can understand .eml files. To copy messages from Windows Live Mail back into OE, just drag the .eml files into OE. Details are provided in a Windows BBS forum post.
 - ✓ If all else fails, you can use a third-party program such as Static E-mail Backup to transfer contacts and mail from OE or WM into Windows Live Mail. You'll find a download link on the vendor's site. Sadly, the free version won't translate from one program to another, but the \$50 version of the app will do the trick.

XP VIRTUAL MACHINE (or XP Mode, "XPM"): Windows 7 allows you to run a copy of XP in a Hardware supported virtual Environment. (There are several pre-requisites for this, but they are not well defined at this time 5-2009). Here are some statements that seem to be accurate:

- Windows 7 Professional and Ultimate will both ship with a license to download a packaged copy of XP SP3 (Virtual XP PC) designed to run inside Win7.
- This Download of XP will install and run only in a Virtual Machine Mode.
- Virtual Machine Mode requires a CPU that includes Hardware VT support. (VT = Virtualization Technology). Some CPU's do have it, and some don't. See <http://www.grc.com/securable.htm> for a utility that will determine if your PC has VT hardware or not.
- It is suggested that the PC have at least 3-4 GB RAM to run XP VM along with other programs. At least 1GB should be allocated to the XP Session.
- At least 15 GB of hard-drive space should be available for the XP session.
- Windows 7 RC1 does offer this capability. See downloads below.
- It is not clear if the Final retail version of Windows 7 will include the Virtual PC for Windows 7 software or if it must be downloaded as an update as it is with Windows 7 RC1.
- General info from Microsoft: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/virtual-pc/default.aspx>
- To download the Virtual PC for Windows 7 update (KB958559) (5 MB):
<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/virtual-pc/download.aspx> or
<http://www.mydigitallife.info/2009/04/30/virtual-pc-for-windows-7-for-virtual-machine-or-xp-mode-free-download-kb958559/>
- Instructions on how to start and run XP Mode is found in the document called the "VirtualPC_Eval_Guide.doc" from: <http://www.microsoft.com/Downloads/details.aspx?familyid=62CD2E63-52F8-4CF5-A7D5-7ABAAB270451&displaylang=en> .
- To download Virtual XP PC beta (445 MB): <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/virtual-pc/download.aspx> or
<http://www.mydigitallife.info/2009/05/06/windows-virtual-pc-and-windows-xp-mode-beta-official-free-direct-download-links/>
- NOTE: Separate Antivirus products must to be running in both the XP and the Win 7 environments for the PC to be fully protected.
- Also see <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/977206/>
- To run XP Mode on Windows 7 Home Premium, try thiis tip from Tom's Hardware:
<http://www.tomshardware.com/news/windows-xp-mode-windows-7-win7,10213.html>

WHERE'S MY STUFF? Here is a File Structure Table comparing XP with WINDOWS 7.

Note: In WINDOWS 7, the XP "My Documents" folder has been replaced by folder called <username>, which is identical to Account Name that you are currently using. Under that folder are the familiar personal folders for Documents, Pictures, Music, Videos, etc.

ITEM	SYSTEM	WHERE
My Documents	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\My Documents</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\Documents</username>
My Pictures	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\My Documents\My Pictures</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\Pictures</username>
My Music	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\My Documents\My Music</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\Music</username>
<i>(You get the idea.....)</i>		
Desktop Icons - All users	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Desktop
	Windows 7	C:\Users\Public\Public Desktop
Desktop Icons - Mine	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\Desktop</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\Desktop</username>
All Programs Menu (All Users)	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Start Menu\Programs
	Windows 7	C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs
All Programs Menu (Mine)	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\Start Menu\Programs</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs</username>
Startup Folder - All Users	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Start Menu\Programs\Startup
	Windows 7	C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup
Startup Folder - Mine	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\Start Menu\Programs\Startup</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup</username>
Programs	XP	C:\Program Files\
	Windows 7	C:\Program Files\
Firefox Bookmarks	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\Application Data\Mozilla\Firefox\Profiles\xnxnrxnx.default\bookmarks.html</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\AppData\Roaming\Mozilla\Firefox\Profiles\xnxnrxnx.default\bookmarks.html (xnxnrxnx=anything)</username>
Thunderbird Mail	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\Application Data\Thunderbird\Profiles\xnxnrxnx.default</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\AppData\Roaming\Thunderbird\Profiles\xnxnrxnx.default</username>
EPSON Personal Printer Preferences (UCF File)	XP	C:\ProgramFiles\EPSON\ <yourprinter>\xxxxxxx.ucf< td=""> </yourprinter>\xxxxxxx.ucf<>
	Windows 7	C:\ProgramData\EPSON\ <yourprinter>\xxxxxxx.ucf< td=""> </yourprinter>\xxxxxxx.ucf<>
IE TEMPORARY FILES	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\</username>
TEMP FOLDER	XP	C:\Documents and Settings\ <username>\Local Settings\Temp</username>
	Windows 7	C:\Users\ <username>\AppData\Local\Temp</username>

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