



Why Should CIRJ Concepts Set up Your New Computer?

Computers running newer versions of Windows Operating systems, such as Vista and the brand new Windows 7, have great new graphic interfaces, along with a whole new way of handling information and data than previous releases. Newer versions contain a wide array of helpful applications, new security features, better integration, and newer technologies to increase performance, along with easier ways to access and utilize the internet. Newer models of hardware such as modems, access points, routers, and printers contain technologies that require specific driver installations to be updated or flashed usually at some point throughout the life of the equipment. Having a professional, such as CIRJ Concepts, setup your computer software and hardware will ensure a virtually issue-free start of using your new computer. All of this combined with Anti-Virus software such as AVG Internet Security 8.5 will get you up and running, safe, secure and worry-free.

When you purchase a new computer, in most cases it was not manufactured the moment you bought it. Many computer systems and hardware components sit in warehouses or retail stores long before you purchase them. In the meantime, the manufacturer of the computer and of the operating system, have released large numbers of updates to improve the software, such as repairing any bugs, minimizing inconsistencies, patching security flaws, and updating a variety of technical components to allow each application to work with others.

It is no longer enough to just plug in your new computer in and start working. There are a number of steps that need to be performed to ensure your system is properly updated and patched and we are not just talking about

Windows updates. Although they are extremely important, they are not enough. The manufacturer's updates are equally important and can be more difficult to locate, download, setup and install, as these updates are not automatically downloaded and you are not usually notified that they are even available.

Some examples of important manufactures updates would include a BIOS update or upgrade where we have to "flash" the BIOS. The chipset utility is another very important manufacture update/upgrade that would need to be "flashed." The BIOS and Chipset Utility are software/firmware for hardware components within your computer system. Without these working properly and updated when needed, your computer would either not work or it would constantly have major issues. When the manufacturer releases an update for your make/model, it is always for an important reason. There was either something wrong with the software/firmware or perhaps there was a security flaw located in the setup. Either way, these updates are necessary and must be installed properly to maintain your system stability and compatibility. Other types of manufacturers updates would include software/firmware updates for the following: data protection, audio and video drivers, help and support updates, network adapter updates, wireless LAN updates, USB compliancy setups, and the list could go on and on depending on your computer hardware setup.

As previously mentioned, the manufactures updates/upgrades must, must, must be installed properly. It sounds simple, but it isn't always, especially if you are unsure how the updates differ between versions of operating systems and computer models. There are

different releases for different manufacturers and for different models running different operating systems. There possibility of installing the wrong update version that will cause damage to your system is a known occurrence and something we attempt to repair on many of our clients computers. This is one reason we suggest you have CIRJ Concepts setup your new computer along with the hardware/software bundles included. This will ensure the updates/upgrades are installed properly. We want you to enjoy your computer. You should not have to constantly troubleshoot issues that will arise from improper setup and updating.

There are other concerns you must address when buying a new computer. Computer Security is a very serious concern and something we take seriously. Many people do not think they really have to have Anti-Virus/security software. But you do! We will never try to sell you something you do not need. Believe us; you absolutely need security software such as anti-virus, firewall and anti-spyware protections at the minimum. We have seen firsthand the damage malware (general term for all types of viruses, Trojans, worms) can cause. Think of computer security software as health insurance for your computer. It is an expense we don't like to pay, but having it will save a ton of money when it is needed.

New computers do not come with adequate security software. Millions of new viruses and malware are released all over the world at all hours of the day. Many new computers come with a trial version of an Anti-Virus product, such McAfee or Norton. When the trial period ends, your computer is without active security software, leaving all of your data including your pictures, music, videos, and all of your financial and important work, unprotected and at risk. (There was an article published that explains why Windows allows these companies to include such trial software versions in brand new installs, calling it "bloated" versions of Windows. By ridding your computer of the trial software, on average, you can increase performance on your computer by at least 20%) If you decide to purchase the pre-installed trial security software, you will spend a lot of money and get very little

protection. That is why we only provide one Anti-Virus/Firewall product; AVG Anti-Virus Software.

When we first started this business, we wanted to provide several security products for our clients to choose from. We began to research and test several major security software products by putting them through our own virus testing, including testing firewall capabilities, user friendliness and the overall ability to protect your computer. Once completed, the testing proved only one product could properly protect you and your computer; AVG Anti-Virus Products. This was the only software that provided the full protection we expect along with a great user friendly interface that allows clients to easily scan individual files as well as their entire computer, along with top of the line technologies that are not available in the other products tested. Once you install AVG, you can use the web the way it was meant to be uses; freely. AVG runs in the background, constantly scanning, without affecting computer performance. With all of the excellent benefits AVG provides, we decided we would only provide AVG products for our clients. Why would we offer our clients security software that does not secure their computer? The answer is we would never do that. (We will soon be writing an article on the excellent technologies AVG provides). The irony of AVG products vs. the others is cost. AVG's software is so much more inexpensive that the other major security software providers. To us, it was a no brainer. Good price with excellent protection; we were sold. (Comparatively, a two-year license for the best AVG Product is approximately \$80.00 vs. the same license period with less protection from the other companies costing approximately \$190.00. Most people are not aware, but all Anti-Virus software licenses are sold on a yearly or biennially basis.)

So, "Why Should CIRJ Concepts Setup your Computer?" Well, we provide a full service setup including all of the topics/information we have provided above in this article plus so much more. Not only will we fully install updates for your Microsoft Windows version, we will also do the same for the more difficult Manufacturers updates. We will fully customize your computer for you including setting up your user accounts, transferring files, pictures, music and settings

from your old computer to the new. We will setup your wireless network (if you currently have one). We will remove all of the junk and trial software that is installed in “bloated” versions of Microsoft Windows, and do a full maintenance free of charge on your new system. We also provide customization of your desktop, whether you want enhancements, additional applications or need previous versions of software installed on your new computer. We do it all. We will also help you setup your email, calendar, and any other application you need to have right away. We will show you how access any part of the new Windows versions you are interested in. You will also be able to purchase the AVG product of your choice during the setup and we install and fully customize the security to your needs including complete firewall setup. (AVG software not included in the price of the setup) Our setup service is a lot of work and takes time; that’s time you do not have to spend trying to figure it out.

When we setup your computer, we will keep track of any important updates that need to be installed. We can then contact you to be sure you have made the required update to continue protecting your system. You can also keep track of important updates and security information by visiting our website at www.CIRJConcepts.com and our Support Blog at <http://support.cirjconcepts.com>.

Setting up your computer is the first step. Keeping it properly maintained and secure is a regular process in order to avoid hang-ups and issues with your system. We provide computer maintenance services designed for you. It is a necessary service for most users and needed to maintain or increase performance and maintain stability without allowing “computer rot” to take over. Computer Maintenance, in a simple sense, is a service to clean up your system, patch updates and other important maintenance to keep your computer running like you expect. During our setup service, we can decide together on a maintenance schedule based on average usage amounts. We usually recommend maintenance every 4 to 6 months for moderate users.

We hope this article helped you to understand how computers require someone with knowledge and experience to ensure your system

is properly updated, secured, and the firmware is properly “flashed.” If you have questions or comments, please contact us anytime. If you would like to make an appointment, you can email us or contact us by phone. Our phone number is available on our website.

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