

Tip for May2005
Courtesy of Wyvern Technology
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One of my clients said to me the other day: "I hate computers."
I answered: "So do I."
He reinforced his statement with: "I hate them with a passion"
I answered: "So do I."

But not all the time, fortunately, in my case. But, just like most of you, if the computer is behaving badly, then I would like to send it to the naughty corner. Very trying, they are.

What do you look for when buying a printer.

Obviously you have done your research and know that you want a printer that will just print out your emails or you want a top of the range for printing high quality graphics. Whatever you are looking for, most people don't realise that the biggest ongoing cost will be your cartridges. So you should be asking how many cartridges the printer has and how much they cost to replace. A printer that starts with at least 4 cartridges – one for cyan, one for magenta, one for yellow and one for black is the way to go as if one colour runs out, then you are not replacing the whole colour cartridge but just that colour. So be wise. Sometimes the printer you buy cheaply has one or 2 very expensive cartridges and you might as well throw out the whole printer and buy another one when the cartridge(s) run(s) out. It is about the same price.

Some free on the internet programs that I really recommend. I know, some of you are allergic to getting freebies; you think somehow they are inferior to what you pay for. Not so. In the case of these I am recommending, they are superior.

1. An Internet browser that behaves much better than Internet Explorer: Firefox found at www.mozilla.org .
2. A firewall: Zone Alarm free from www.zonelabs.com
3. A program that prevents programs installing themselves without your knowledge: Prevx Home from www.prevx.com
4. A program that trawls for intruders and removes them: spybot from www.safer-networking.org/en/download/

Cheers,

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