

# Helpful Computer Tips

1. Back-up important data: A hard drive can fail at any time. Make sure to back-up your personal documents, photo, letters & files regularly onto a disc or external hard drive for protection. Tax time is a good time to do this.
2. Protect your computer from surges: Storms with electrical fluctuations can damage your computer & modem. Save money now by buying a good surge protector for all major electronics.
3. Keep your computer & programs up to date: All programs & plugins need updates and will not run properly if not updated. Do a web search to see how to update your operating system.
4. Watch what you agree to: Often free programs, plugins and updates have checked boxes that ask if it's OK to install additional programs onto the computer. Make sure to uncheck these boxes to avoid issues.
5. Go wireless: Cut the cord and go wireless with your wireless printer, keyboard and mouse.
6. Put your computer on a diet: Unused programs and old files can cause your computer to slow down. Consider removing these programs.
7. Know your bandwidth: The more computers, tablets, and games that use internet at the same time can slow down your connection. Bump up your speed by calling our office today.
8. Prevent viruses: Pop-ups about security, email attachments & downloading pirated music can carry viruses. Keep your anti-virus protection up to date.
9. Keep computer dust & dirt free. Computers are like magnets for dust and dirt which leads to overheating and short life. Use a can of compressed air to blow out dust, inside & out.
10. The performance of Wi-Fi network connections depends on distance between the device and the wireless access point. The further away a Wi-Fi device, the slower the local connection generally runs, until it breaks altogether. Wireless signal interference in the area can also limit the effective range of a Wi-Fi connection.
11. How to troubleshoot your DSL modem: Check for a solid green ADSL light on the DSL router. If it is not solid, reboot the router by pulling the power plug from the back of the unit (little black cord), leave it unplugged for a few seconds, then plug it back in. Let the DSL router come back up, and make sure the ADSL light goes solid green