



Alternate Programs

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May 2017 - TIPS & TRICKS... “Alternate Programs”

Hello there from the Tech department;

How many of you want to save money on software? My guess would be close to 95% of America! But, when you're making that decision be sure you weigh the real cost. Much of your decision will be on simplicity of the software. Some will say that constant updates causes a serious distraction especially after paying several hundred dollars for a main stream graphics or office package. Then there are a large group that will say that they'd use anything that is free to avoid paying for a commercial version of that software.

My advice is that everyone must find a balance on what ever software it is that they want and need to use. A consensus among users generally shows they want the following from their software:

- Low cost
- Easy to use, install and maintain
- Compatibility when transferring a document among friends or associates
- Cross-platform compatibility
- Ability to run it on many different operating systems without hang-ups
- Most of all we all want software with the least number of problems

Right off the top I'll tell you that all software has bugs. Sometimes the more persistent bugs are in commercial software. But to be fair lets just say all software has problems. Your goal is to find the software with the least amount of troubles. That can be a confusing task because no one wants to buy a software title just to see if it works.

Over the past twenty years the number of free software titles has exploded in both their abilities and platform support. Be aware that the world has become filled with wolves in sheep's clothing. Not all free software is free from trouble much like that of commercial, or paid software. My grand father always said , “Nothing is FREE unless there is a string attached”.I can tell you with assurance that there is reliable, and useful software titles out there!.

I would also add a warning when listening to that one family relative, or friend that claims to be a

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computer genius, and wants you to download a free utility that supposedly works miracles (9 out of 10 are SNAKE-OIL)! The Internet as well as most department stores have jumped on the band-wagon and are full of these little gem utilities that are suppose to do the same thing as what you already have built into most all computers. Just Saying...! The side affects usually will cause more problems than what they are said to cure. Most of these utilites are so poorly written that some even remove good files which ultimately will crash your system.

FREE SOFTWARE THAT IS USEFUL & THE LEAST PROBLEMATIC:

MAIL: **Microsoft Live Essentials , for PCs**
<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14210/security-essentials-download>

ANTIVIRUS: **AVG Free Antivirus:** <http://www.avg.com/us-en/download>

Windows Defender:
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/windows-defender>

OFFICE SUITE: **Apache Open Office Suite:** <http://www.openoffice.org/>

PICTURE VIEWER: **iRfanview:** <http://www.irfanview.com/>

A WORD ABOUT P2P (cancer for your computer)

For those who like to use P2P programs to get your free stuff you better think again! P2P or Peer-to-peer is basically larceny in disguise. First off, the program you download (All P2P programs basically work the same) and install secretly downloads many other pieces of software that spies on you, and opens ports that allow viruses to attack your computer, they collect data about you, and many times forces your Antivirus software to be disabled without your knowledge which leads to crooks stealing your identity and compromising your computer to a point that you will have to rebuild it to factory condition to fully rid yourself of the corrupted files they cause.

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Call us today to setup an appointment to review your situation and recommend what would fit into your budget, and needs. (828) 400-7271. We also just added a catalog of discount Antivirus and Internet Security. You can get a price quote by calling us or email with your needs. We accept now credit cards to allow users to security purchase software of your choice with a license key and download link so you can install it yourself, or make an appointment for a technician to install your software professionally.

Check out our company website for a link page:

<http://www.pctechuptime.com/security.html>

<http://www.pctechuptime.com/backup.html>

<http://www.pctechuptime.com/discount-security.html>

Antivirus software

Backup Choices

Discount Security Software

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Thank you!

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