

# Little Known Windows Vista Tips

By Andy Walker

Windows Vista, the new operating system from Microsoft, due out to consumers at the end of January 2007, offers loads of new fun options.

The most common new features you may already know about include the new Aero interface that features 3D glass-like windows, a redesigned Start menu and new way of searching your system. Vista has been designed with tighter security features to keep out viruses and spyware.

But these are the obvious features. Here are a series of little know tips and tricks to make using Vista much easier:

- 1) If UAC drives you nuts: If the new User Access Control (that asks you for permission to make system changes drives you buggy) then turn it off. Click Start then type "msconfig" in the Start bar search box and when it appears, click it. Then select the new Tools tab and scroll down and turn it off UAC in the list. You'll also need to reboot.
- 2) Run as Administrator: Some software won't install, even if you are logged in as an administrator. So right click on the setup file you are trying to execute and choose Run as an Administrator to get it to install properly.
- 3) Edit your startup applications with Windows Defender. Start Windows Defender and click Tools and then Software Explorer and then remove or disable programs you don't want to run at start up or remove programs from memory
- 4) In the Network and Sharing menu click "Customize" next to the network and choose Public to make your system more secure if you are on a public Wi-Fi connection or if you wireless network is not secured with WEP or WPA. Make your network Private if you want you computer to be auto discoverable which means it can be easily found by other computers on your home network.
- 5) Shift and then right click on a folder or any program to add the items "Copy as path" and "Open command window here" to the menu.
- 6) Keyboard short cut secret: From left to right assign the icons on your QuickLaunch bar a number. To launch each one hold down the Windows logo key and type the number of position of the application. So if you have Firefox then Word then Windows Media player then type Windows key and then 1 to launch Firefox. Tap Windows key and the 2 to launch Word and so on.

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