

Computer Maintenance & Problem Prevention



1

Prevention

BACKUP!

- ◆ Always always always backup your data.
- ◆ Always
- ◆ Strategy?
 - ◆ One backup of important files right on your computer
 - ◆ In a different location
 - ◆ One backup of on a different medium
 - ◆ One backup of on yet another different medium OFFSITE

2

Prevention

Your power

- ◆ An Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS!)
 - ◆ Or at the very least, a good surge protector

3

Prevention

Antivirus

- ◆ Always make sure you have some kind of antivirus running
 - ◆ (if you are using a Windows machine)
- ◆ There are several free versions of good quality software that automatically update themselves
 - ◆ AVG Free
 - ◆ Avast
- ◆ Norton Utilities?

4

Prevention

Firewalls

- ◆ If your computer is connected to the internet, make sure there is a firewall somewhere between it and you.
- ◆ Most home routers (Linksys, etc) have built-in firewalls, but if you are connected directly, make sure the firewall is turned on.
 - ◆ This is actually turned off by default on many versions of both Windows and MacOS

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Prevention**Maintenance**

Keep some room free on C:

- ◆ Some of you have only this drive, others have many.
- ◆ Either way, your computer needs room to 'wiggle'
 - ◆ Needs some room to do things temporarily
- ◆ Lack of room can make things very slow
- ◆ Try to keep at least 1GB free.
- ◆ Maybe remove that game you haven't played in 6 months?

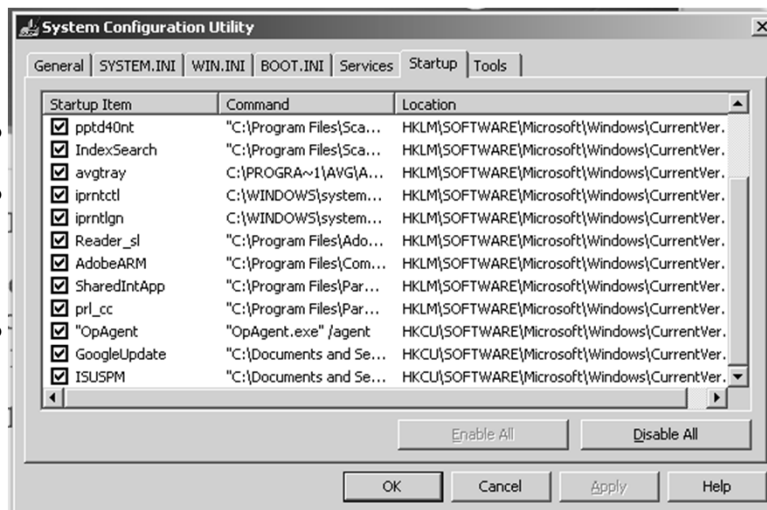
6

Scandisk

- ◆ Running scandisk helps make sure all your files are complete and pointing to the right things.
- ◆ Sometimes data gets corrupted, or shortcuts get broken and a file no longer points where it is supposed to.
- ◆ Scandisk scans all your files and checks their integrity.

7

Watch out for running applications



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Remember:

- ◆ Backup your data!
- ◆ Good power
- ◆ Antivirus
- ◆ Firewalls
- ◆ Keep some space free
- ◆ Scandisk
- ◆ Watch your processes (programs running)

Which one(s) do you think are most important?