

# Tips and Tricks from Avatar Computer Solutions

August, 2009

## A Personal Note



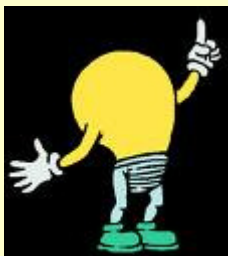
[Avatar Computer Solutions](#) is dedicated to providing their customers with valuable and useful information in order keep

their systems up and running, safe and secure, and with the highest level of performance. I hope you enjoy them as much I enjoy working for you. Feel free to forward this information to anyone you feel may benefit from it.

As always, contact me at any time with any questions or issues you may have.

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## Avatar Favorite Tip



Just like your car battery, your UPS needs to be maintained. Manufacturers recommend replacing UPS batteries every 3 years.

## Feature Headline



## Six Easy Ways to Speed up Your Computer

One of the most common complaints heard is: "My computer is running too slowly - what can I do?" There are actually a number of reasons why this could be happening, and luckily, a number of ways to solve the problem. Here are our top six recommendations to

help boost your PC speed and performance:

### 1. Clean up your hard drive

A typical hard drive is crammed full of files you really don't need. The less stuff that's on your hard drive, the faster your computer will be.

If you don't want to delete files altogether, such as things like photos and music or video files, consider moving them to an external hard drive.

### 2. Get rid of visual effects

Windows Vista® comes with some cool visual effects, but they can drain system resources. Disabling some will speed your system.

### 3. Scan for viruses and spyware

One of the main culprits of sluggish PC performance is malware: viruses, spyware, Trojan horses, worms, and other kinds of malicious unwanted software. If you don't already have antivirus protection installed, you should do so right away! Make sure to schedule an automatic virus scan at least once a month. You should also always keep a firewall running to help block malware from getting to your PC in the first place.

### 4. Add more memory

Adding system memory is often the best way to improve a PC's performance. However, upgrading memory can sometimes be difficult and costly.

If you're not sure how to do this, give us a call.

**Service clients - don't sweat it - we handle this for you during maintenance!**

#### **5. Run a defragmentation utility**

Disk Defragmenter is a Windows utility that consolidates files and folders on your computer's hard disk so that each occupies a single space, which in turn speeds up reading and writing to the disk.

#### **6. Reduce number of programs automatically running**

Many programs automatically install themselves to run automatically when your PC starts. Edit the program configuration or remove the shortcut from the Startup folder to reduce the load on your PC.

After following these tips, you should notice an improvement in your computer's performance.



According to the latest data from Symantec, image spam has made an unwelcome return, averaging 21.9% of messages during one week in May. Overall spam levels have climbed to nearly 90% of email traffic as spammers lure email users with Twitter scams and topical references to auto discounts and job training.

Did you know SPAM can be effectively eliminated from your Inbox for just pennies a day?

Avatar can offer a variety of solutions to increase your productivity by ridding you annoying and distracting SPAM.

Please don't hesitate to call or email me if you need any help or have any questions. Thanks!

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