

# Top 10 Tips & Tricks

## Security & Protection

### 1

#### Overall Security

All of your computer's security needs are now bundled in one easy-to-find, easy-to-monitor location. The Windows Security Center helps make your PC more secure by alerting you when your security software is out of date or when your security settings should be strengthened. The Security Center also tells you whether your PC is set up to receive automatic software updates from Microsoft. Windows Vista, along with Internet Explorer 7, contains many security features to safeguard you and your organization from threats, while keeping your intellectual property protected.

### 2

#### Windows Defender

One of the key tools in the Security Center is Windows Defender. It works with Internet Explorer 7 to help protect your computer against pop-ups, slow performance, and security threats caused by spyware and other unwanted software, often defined as malware. By leveraging superior platform enhancements in Windows Vista, which include improved caching technology for faster scans and removal technologies, using up-to-date spyware definitions created by Microsoft, Windows Defender provides an always-on protection that monitors key system locations, watching for changes that signal the presence of spyware. The "Scan on execute" functionality provides an added layer of Protection by scanning downloaded files before they are saved and executed, reducing the chance that spyware might be installed by accident.

### 3

#### BitLocker

BitLocker Drive Encryption protects the information stored on your computer from hackers or thieves who might obtain access to your machine. It is a full disk encryption feature

included with Microsoft's Windows Vista designed to protect data by providing encryption for entire volumes. By encrypting the entire Windows system volume, data is better protected. Ideally a v1.2 Trusted Platform Module (TPM) chip is the preferred method of encryption key storage. BitLocker Drive Encryption is tightly integrated into Windows Vista and provides a seamless, secure, and manageable data protection solution for you.

### 4

#### Automated Backup

The new backup and restore functionality in Windows Vista makes it easier to keep your data and computer safe from user error, hardware failure, and any other issue that could result in data loss. The Windows Backup and Restore Center gives you one place to manage all backup and restore features. Two particularly useful Automatic Backup features are the ability to do a scheduled backup and the ability to back up your files to an external hard drive, secondary hard drive, writable CD or DVD, or to a network location.

## Search & Organize

### 5

#### Instant Search

Looking for specific applications, Web sites, and e-mails is faster than ever with the streamlined Windows Vista Start Menu. To find a specific application or file, click the Windows key on the keyboard (or open the Start menu) and enter the file name in the Instant Search field. As you type, Windows Vista dynamically searches filenames, metadata, and the full text of all files and displays the choices by file type. For example, to find the Calculator application, simply type "cal" in the Instant Search field, and Windows Vista would display a shortcut to all applications that start with "cal". Calculator will be the top option.

