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MySpace - the biggest security risk is human

MySpace is a popular online hangout because the site makes it easy for them to express themselves and keep in touch with their friends.

As a parent, please consider the following guidelines to help your children make safe decisions about using online communities.

Talk to your kids about why they use MySpace, how they communicate with others and how they represent themselves on MySpace.

Kids shouldn't lie about how old they are. MySpace members must be 14 years of age or older. MySpace takes extra precautions to protect younger members and are not able to do so if they do not identify themselves as such. MySpace will delete users whom they find to be younger than 14 or those misrepresenting their age.

MySpace is a public space. Members shouldn't post anything they wouldn't want the world to know (e.g., phone number, address, IM screen name, or specific whereabouts). Tell your children they should avoid posting anything that would make it easy for a stranger to find them, such as their local hangouts.

Remind them not to post anything that could embarrass them later or expose them to danger. Although MySpace is public, teens sometimes think that adults can't see what they post. Tell them that they shouldn't post photos or info they wouldn't want adults to see.

People aren't always who they say they are. Ask your children to be

careful about adding strangers to their friends list. It's fun to connect with new MySpace friends from all over the world, but members should be cautious when communicating with people they don't know. They should talk to you if they want to meet an online friend in person, and if you think it is safe, any meeting should take place in public and with friends or a trusted adult present.

Harassment, hate speech and inappropriate content should be reported. If your kids encounter inappropriate behavior, let them know that they can let you know, or they should report it to MySpace or the authorities.



Old standard software applications pass their usefulness

Some of the applications we at Software To Go have used for years as a standard installation have "grown" past the point of usefulness. Among these applications are Ad-Aware 2007, Norton Endpoint Protection (not to be confused with their standard antivirus program) and the free Adobe Reader 8.0.

These programs have gotten more complex (due to growing security risks), bigger (addition of more bells and whistles) and incredibly resource intensive (slowing down your computer).

Keeping our customer's sanity in mind, we've found better ways and better applications to fill the gaps left by not using these once essential applications. The testament is improved computer performance while maintaining your data integrity and security.

*Software To Go Provides a
Number of Maintenance and
Support Programs Designed to
Fit the Needs of Almost any
Business!*





Too many toolbars?

Google toolbar, Yahoo toolbar, ISP's toolbar, Merriam-Webster dictionary toolbar, DogPile toolbar, Alta Vista, Norton website checker toolbar, scrolling stock ticker, a weather report... Can one be too "well-informed"?

How do you determine when you have too many toolbars?

- Pop-up blockers overlap website access and control
- Security settings conflict with each other reporting false risks
- You can't get certain email attachments
- Regular web pages don't open
- Internet connection slows down
- The whole top half of the browser window is solid toolbars
- The viewing window is tiny

How do you remove those unwanted toolbars? Simply right click on any one of them and left click on the toolbar choice(s) you want to remove.

Next, go to "Add/Remove Programs" and remove them there as well. If you remove one accidentally, you can always add it back later.



Joe's Small Business Notes:

The most valuable asset your business has is its name (and logo, if you have one). Consider filing for a [trademark on your name](#), if it is unique enough. Filing can be done online at <http://www.uspto.gov> or many attorneys can do this for you. Be prepared, you will need samples, which can be uploaded to the Patent and Trademark office showing your name and/or logo being

used in the course of your business as well as information about the Government classifications of your company.

A case in point is Software To Go®. Our name is a Federally Registered Trademark and little did I know when I bought the firm from my old boss, Peter Reunert the Founder of Software To Go, that I would be approached a couple years later by a disk duplication company which wanted to use the name, but found out we owned it. The licensing agreement we signed to allow them use of it, exceeded the price I paid for the company.

As I said, your business's most valuable asset is its name and logo. Ca-ching!

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