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# The Computer Screen

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## Special points of interest:

- Summer Heat and Your computer
- To do or not to do...

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## The Summer Heat And Your Computer!!

Just like people, animals and many other living things computers want to work at a comfortable temperature. If the air temperature is too warm or too cold, your computer will complain. He may not sound like your mother-in-law telling you how to do things, but he will let you know in many different ways it is not comfortable. Unlike your mother-in-law (who I know you love so dearly) the computer you can turn off before it starts complaining. Comfortable temperatures for your computers vary greatly. A good rule of thumb says if you need the Air Conditioner or a coat, so does your computer. This is true of your cell phones, I Pads, and just about any other electronic device you may use. Your computer whether it is a portable computer, laptop, net book or desktop model will shut itself off if it is too hot. One way to tell if your desktop is too hot is to feel the top of the case right over the power supply. I couldn't tell you how many desktops I had to let cool before I could handle it. The desktop would

get so hot I couldn't hold my hand on top of it for more than a second. This is way to hot. How to check your laptop? Laptops and their power adapters will always run warm, this is natural for these devices. What you want to listen for is the cooling fan running in super fast mode sounding like a jet engine. If you hear this you either need to clean the air vents gently with a vacuum cleaner or shut down your laptop. Other things you can do to help your laptop stay cool is purchase what is called a "Chill Pad". A chill pad is not expensive and it is nothing more than a flat surface with fans in it. This can be used while on the road or at home. Another thing you could do is prop your laptop on an angle so the cool air can get into your laptop from the bottom. If you notice your cooling fans are not working on your laptop or your desktop, seek professional



Image Source: Yahoo Image Search

assistance as quickly as possible. Extreme heat or cold can damage your computer permanently with the possibility of a loss of data.

***Do not under any circumstance take your computer apart, or allow moisture to get near your computer. You would be surprised how much moisture can be attracted to your laptop by holding it over the Air Conditioner.***

## To do or not to do...

### Can I add more fans to my computer

***The short answer is yes.***

With a laptop you can use a chill pad, With a desktop you can have a professional install an additional case fans, or a cooling system for your computer.

Short term you can also have a portable fan blowing on the side of your desktop.

### What should I do if my computer shuts off?

If you suspect your computer has shut off due to overheating let it cool for a while. Whether it is a Desktop or a Laptop you will want to leave it be for a good hour, or preferably over night before turning it on again. After a shut down like this your computer will temporarily be slower than normal while it is "healing".

If it doesn't start up properly seek professional help, do not attempt to repair it yourself. The loss of data is very eminent.

### What do I due if my laptop get wet?

If you spill something on your laptop, left it outside overnight or in any other manner got your laptop wet. You will want to partially open it so it is shaped liked a V, and set it on its face so the V is facing down. Allow it to sit like this for at least 12 hours. Ninety percent of the time the wetness will dry out without damaging your laptop. If you spilt anything with sugar or yeast in it such as Wine, Beer Nyquil or Apple Juice. Quickly get it to a professional so he can clean it out before the sugar or yeast dries.

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