Windows Vista

A quick tour and where we are no
Thursday 21st June 2007
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Disclaimer and Warning

☐ Opinions are my own and not necessarily those of OUCS or the University of Oxford

☐ I am in no way endorsing (or disapproving of) this or any other product in this presentation

  ■ You must interpret my comments yourself

☐ There are still compatibility issues with Vista. Do large scale roll-outs at your own risk!

Agenda

- ☐ Product Lineup
- ☐ System requirements
- ☐ Installation
- ☐ Networking
  - ■ Wired, Wireless, File sharing, VPN
- ☐ Printing
- ☐ Software
  - ■ IE7
  - ■ Anti-virus
  - ■ HFS
- ☐ Major changes
- ☐ Activation and licensing
- ☐ Questions

Product Lineup - Versions

- Vista Business
- Vista Enterprise
  - more security and hardware encryption
  - UNIX subsystem for UNIX apps (SUA)
- Vista Home Basic
  - Doesn't include Aero
  - Less searching
  - No DVD burning
  - No Tablet Support
- Vista Home Premium
- Vista Ultimate
  - Has everything in all the others
  - "Top of the range"
- All available in 32- or 64-bit editions

http://www.microsoft.com/windows/products/windowsvista/editions/default.mspx

System Requirements

- ☐ Basic
  - ■ Modern 800MHz processor
  - ■ 512MB RAM
  - ■ DirectX 9 Graphics
- ☐ "Premium ready"
  - ■ 1 GHz x86 or x64 processor
  - ■ 1GB RAM
  - ■ DirectX 9, WDDM, 128 MB graphics RAM, Pixel Shader 2.0, 32 bits per pixel
 - ■ DVD-ROM
  - ■ Audio
  - ■ Internet Access

Installation

- http://www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/
- Using Business Edition
  - Download ISO from https://downloads.oucs.ox.ac.uk/itss/
  - Burn DVD from Microsoft ISO file
    - (note only business edition is bootable)
- Dell Laptop
  - I used Celeron 2.2GHz, 1GB RAM
  - Used Intel Display Driver for XP from Dell
- Email its3@oucs.ox.ac.uk with IP and software card number for activation
- Note Startup Repair Tool

Windows Update

- ☐ Many updates already available
- ☐ Now part of Control Panel
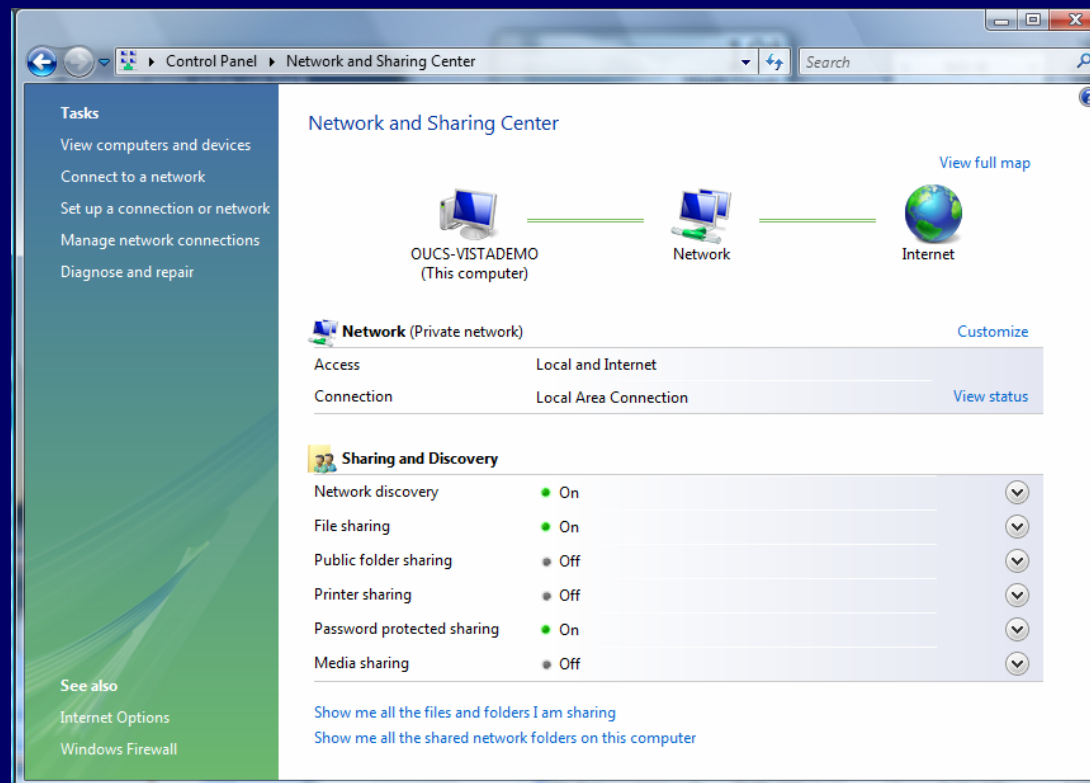
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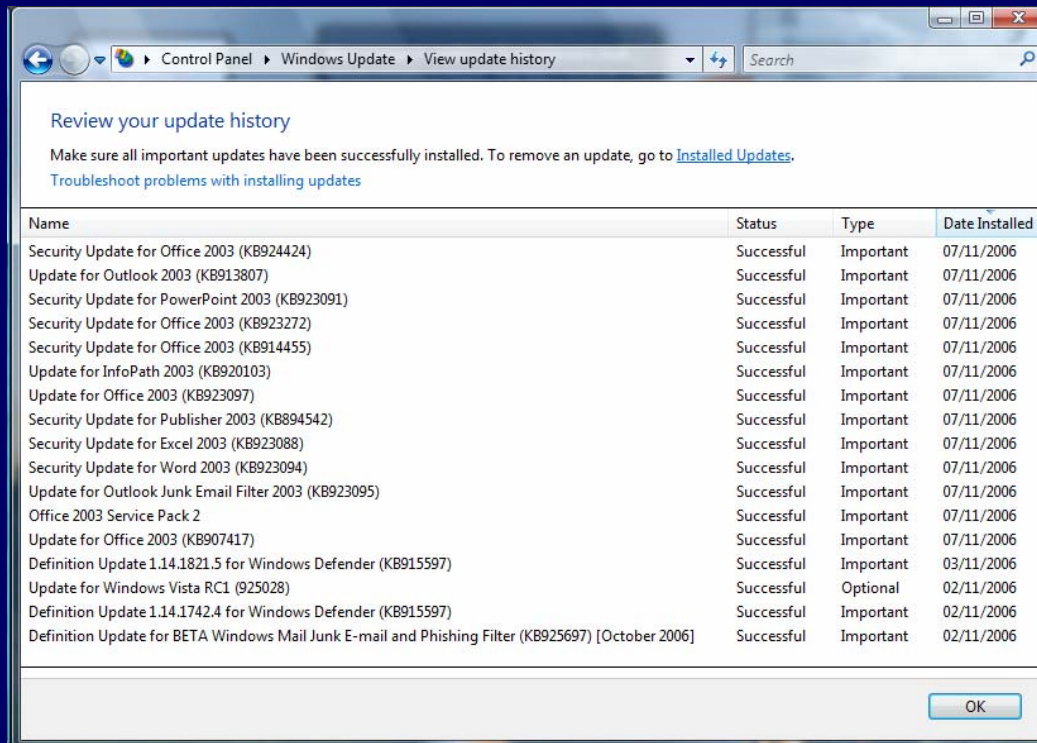
User Account Control

- Provides some security when making system changes
  - Eg installing/uninstalling software
- Being an administrator is not the same as being THE adminstrator
- Beware – Administrator Password not set on initial install
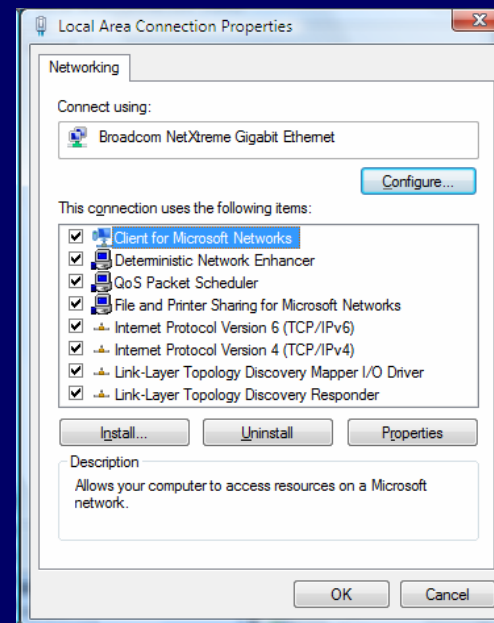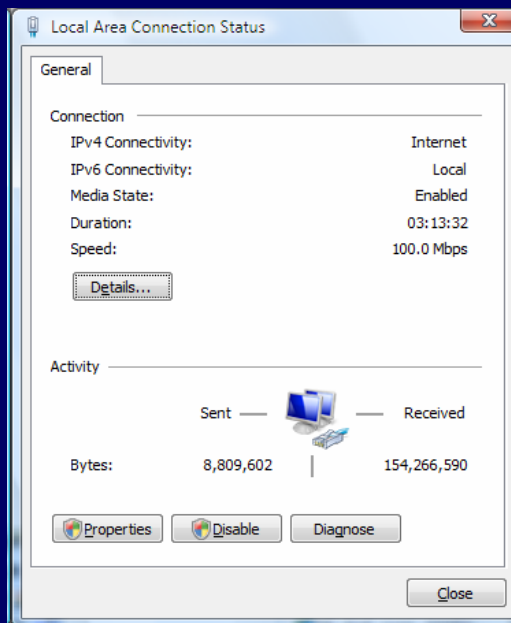 - But account also not enabled

Networking

☐ Network and Sharing Center (sic)

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Wired networking

☐ From network and sharing center
- Choose "manage network connections"
- Right-click items for properties

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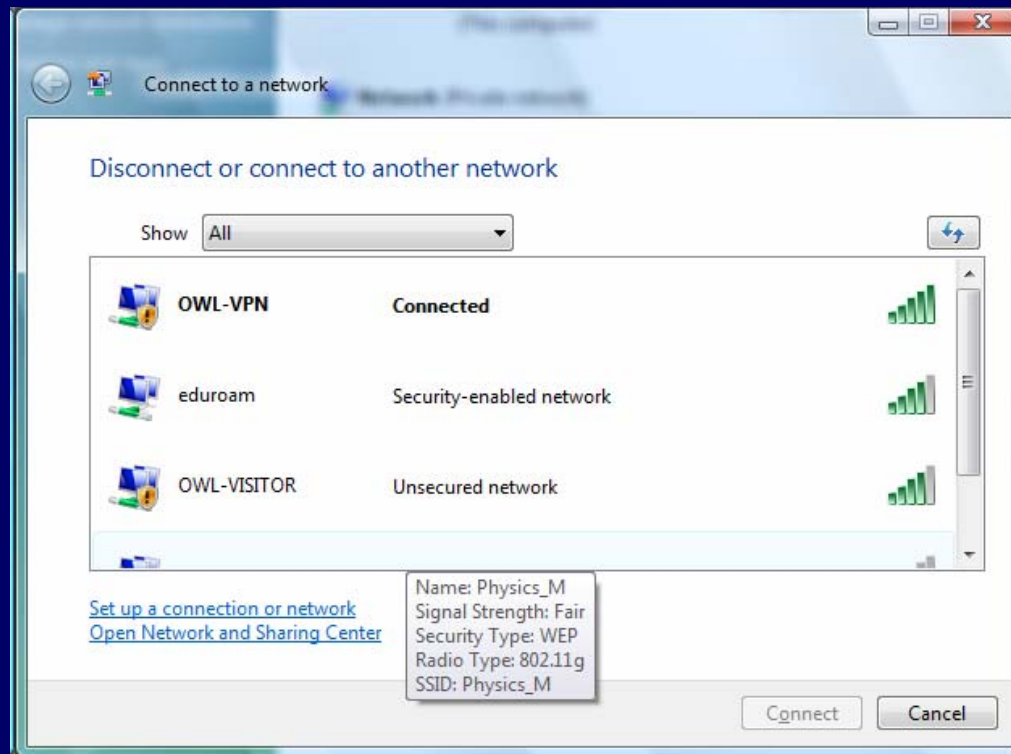# Wireless Networking

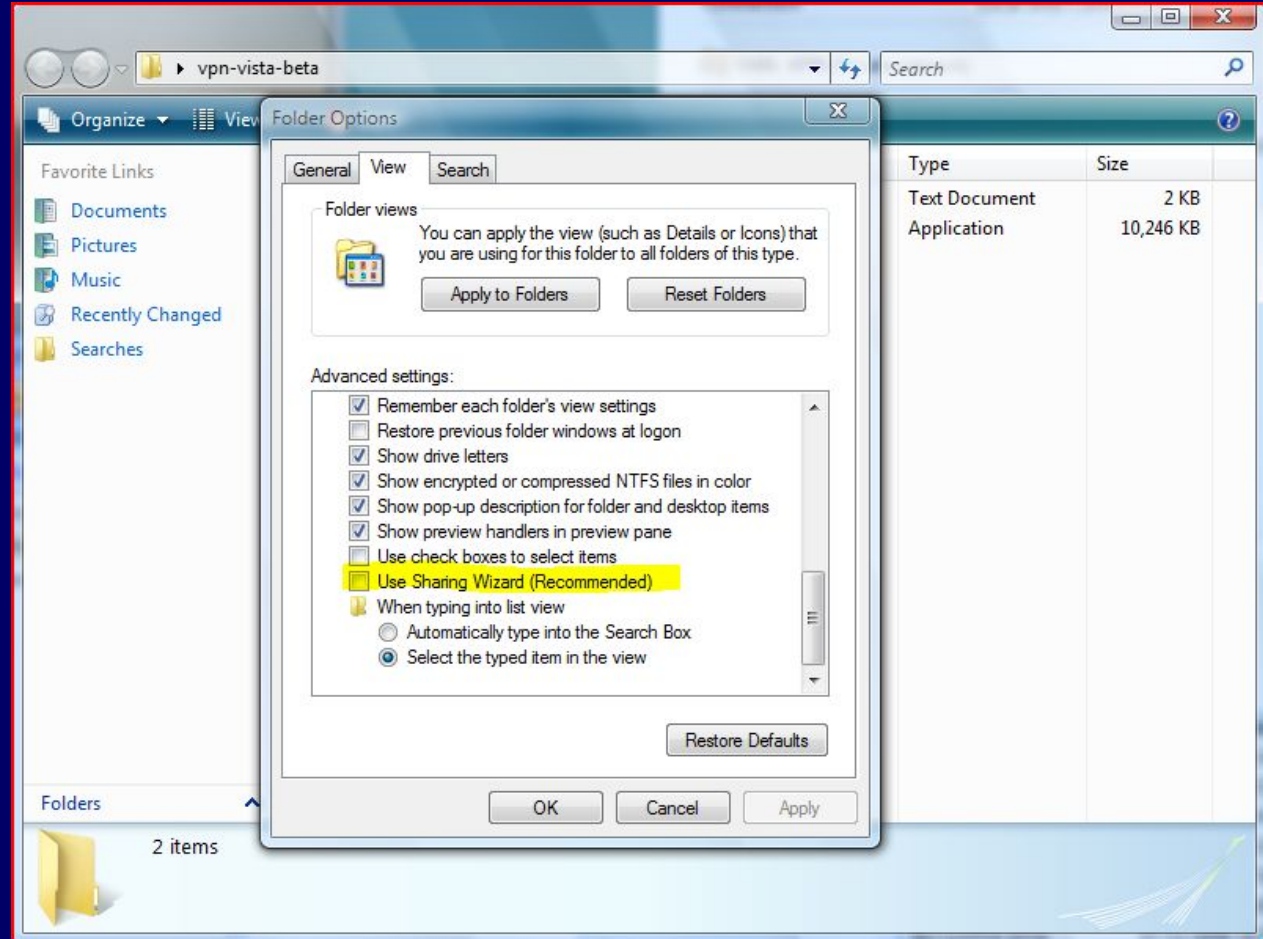☐ Also from network and sharing center

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Wireless Networking

☐ How to connect:

☐ Vista has drivers for USB and PCMCIA Adapters from OUCS shop

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File Sharing

☐ Similar to XP Pro

☐ Changed "Use simple file sharing"

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VPN

- ☐ Latest version is 5.0.00 for Vista and below (not 98).
- ☐ Distributed pre-configured packages at:
  - ■ https://register.oucs.ox.ac.uk/oxonly/downloads/vpn/windows/latest-untested/
- ☐ Not Beta any more and appears to be stable
- ☐ Earlier versions do not work with Vista
- ☐ Required for OWL
- ☐ Often needed for external access to network resources by students/staff

Printing

□ Via Control Panel, Hardware and Sound

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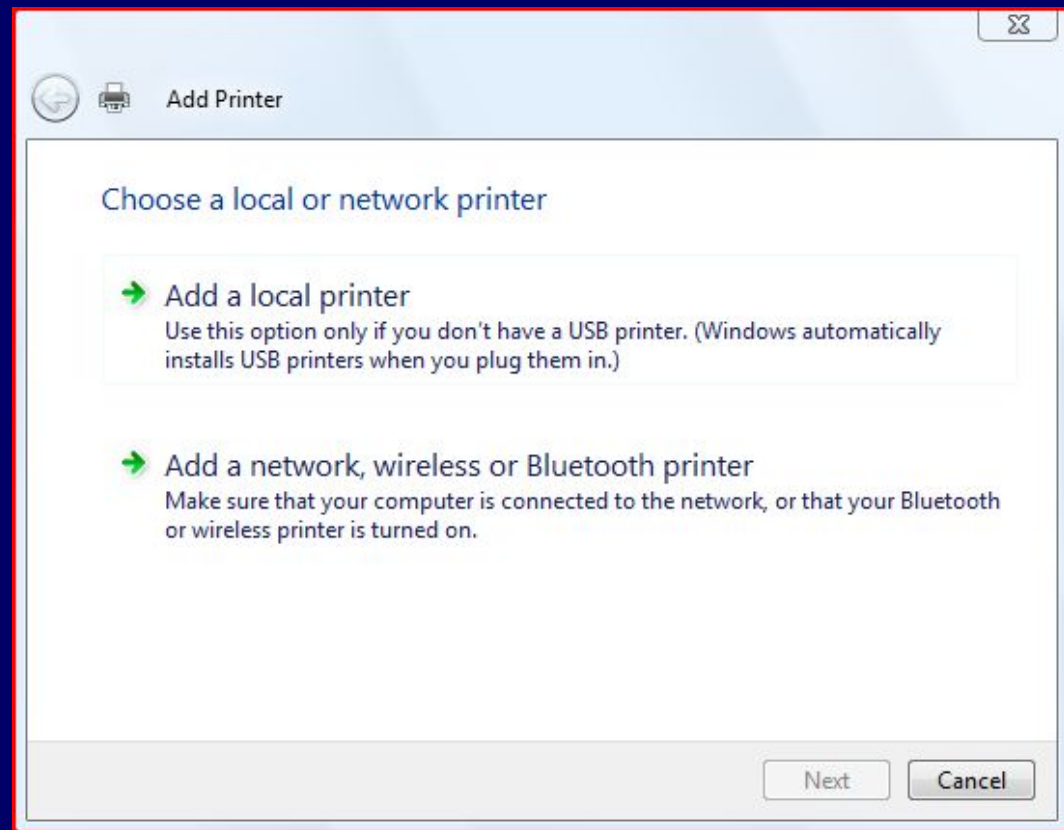
Printing

- ☐ But of course we treat TCP/IP printers using LPR as local printers, just like in XP
- ☐ Vista has lots of drivers built-in
- ☐ HP Universal Printing Driver appears not to work at the moment
  - ■ Crashes Explorer
- ☐ Standard HP drivers seem OK
  - ■ Not HP Printing System though

Software

- IE7 comes as standard
  - Note no support from Oracle yet
- Firefox 2.0 appears to be OK
- TSM backup is supported
  - Need client 5.4.02
    - Only for XP/Vista/2003 NOT 2000
  - Only for use on 10MB+ network connections
  - NOT Broadband/VPN or Dialup.
- Only some AV products currently available for Vista
  - http://www.microsoft.com/uk/athome/security/update/windowsvistaav.mspx
- Microsoft is offering Windows Live OneCare
  - There are others including F-Secure and AVG
- iTunes 7.2 works OK
- Note MS update for corrupt on eject problem
  - http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=305289

Sophos

- Will provide support for Vista with Sophos Anti-Virus v 6.5.
- When released, Sophos Anti-Virus for Windows 2000/XP/2003/Vista, version 6.5, will be updated automatically from the current version 6.0.x. No action needed.
- Support for Vista planned in the next major versions of Enterprise Console, Sophos Control Center and Sophos Client Firewall.
- No support for Vista in the current versions of Enterprise Console, Sophos Control Center and Sophos Client Firewall on Vista.
- Sophos 6.5 has had issues with Vista and it has not been tested enough to release in Oxford.
    - Helpdesk is recommending AVG 7.5 for personal use
- Version available for ITSS at https://downloads.oucs.ox.ac.uk/itss/ictst/sophos/
- Sophos hope to announce SAV version 7 next week so problem with version 6 may not be fixed quickly

http://www.sophos.com/support/knowledgebase/article/6071.html
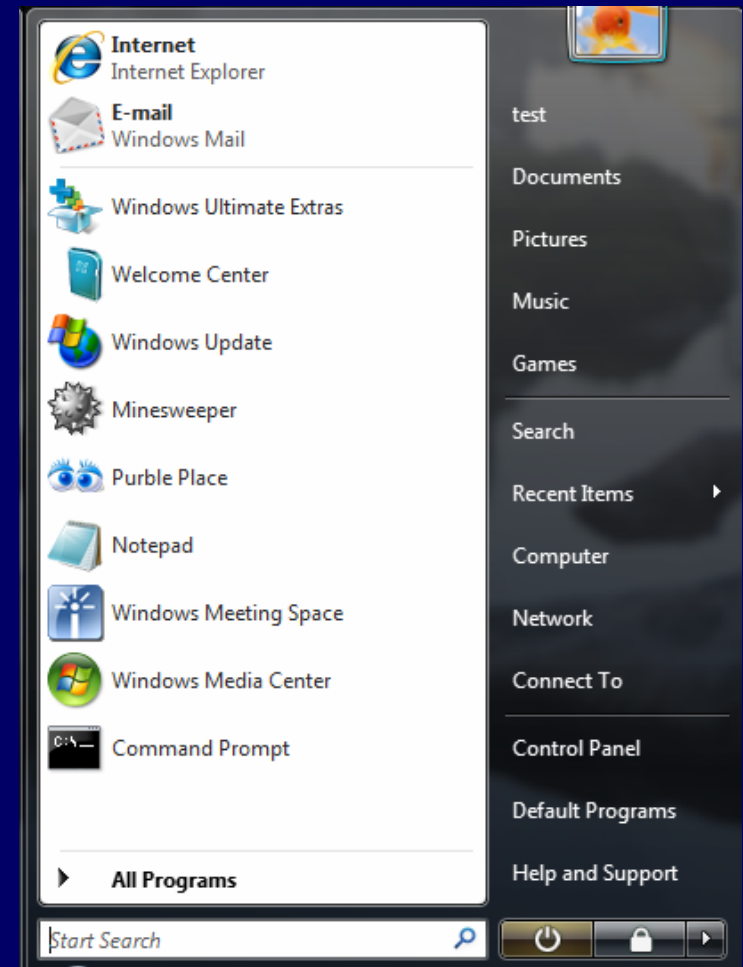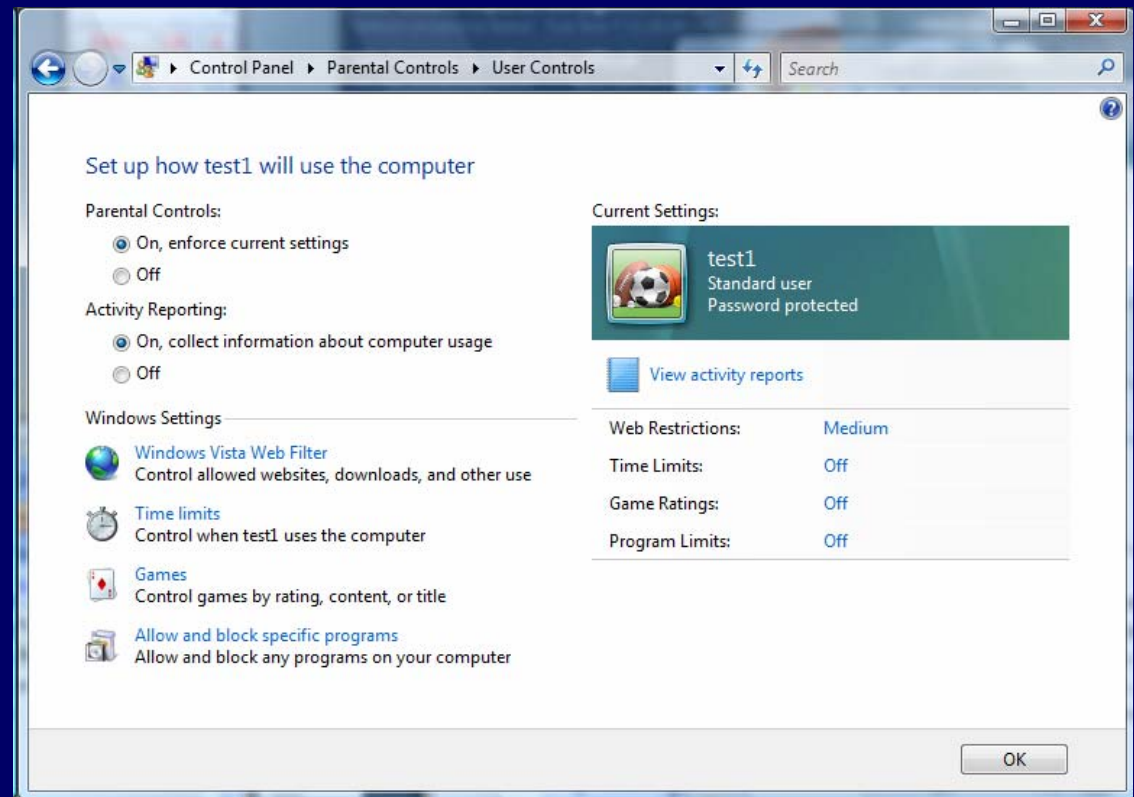
Major Changes

□ Taskbar /Start Menu

- No huge changes but look and feel a bit different
- Similar customisations
- Adds window previews
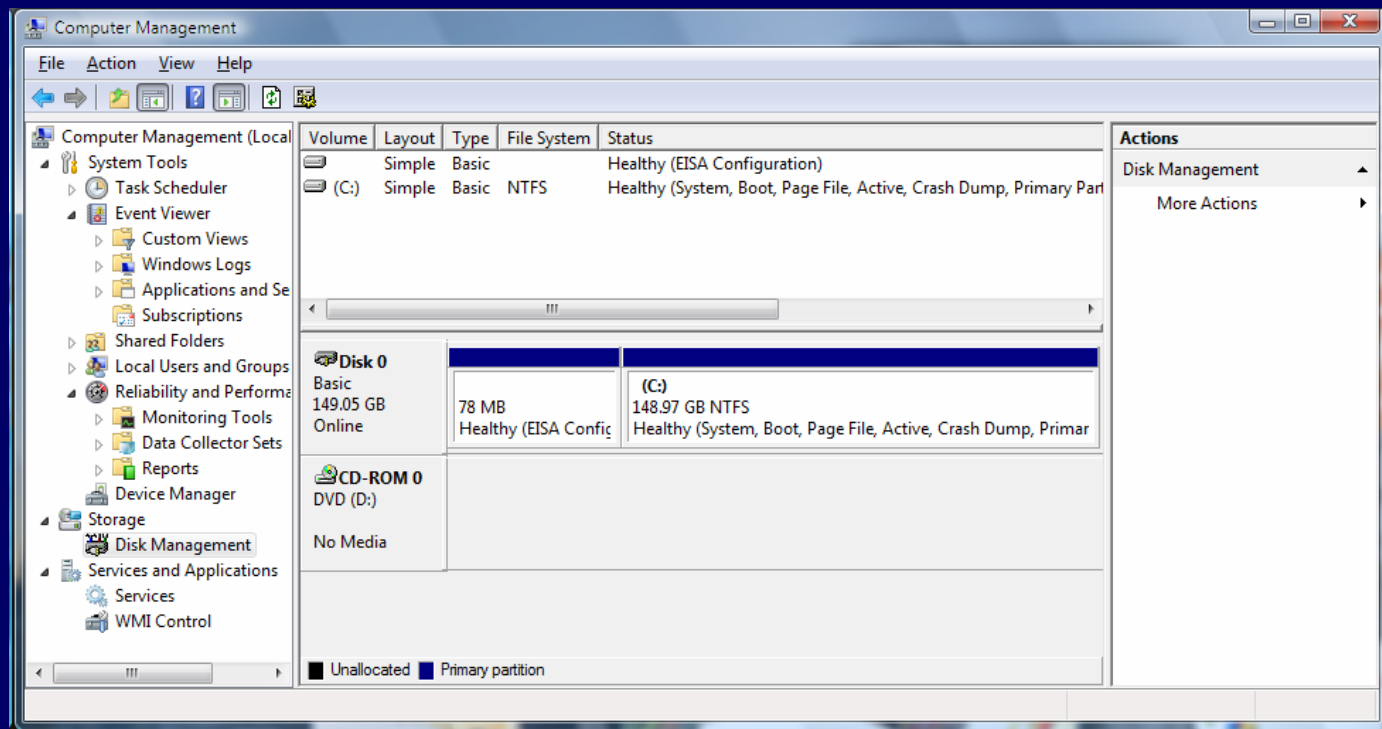- "Run…" has moved into "accessories"

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Parental Controls

□ Control of
- Websites
- Use times
- Game ratings
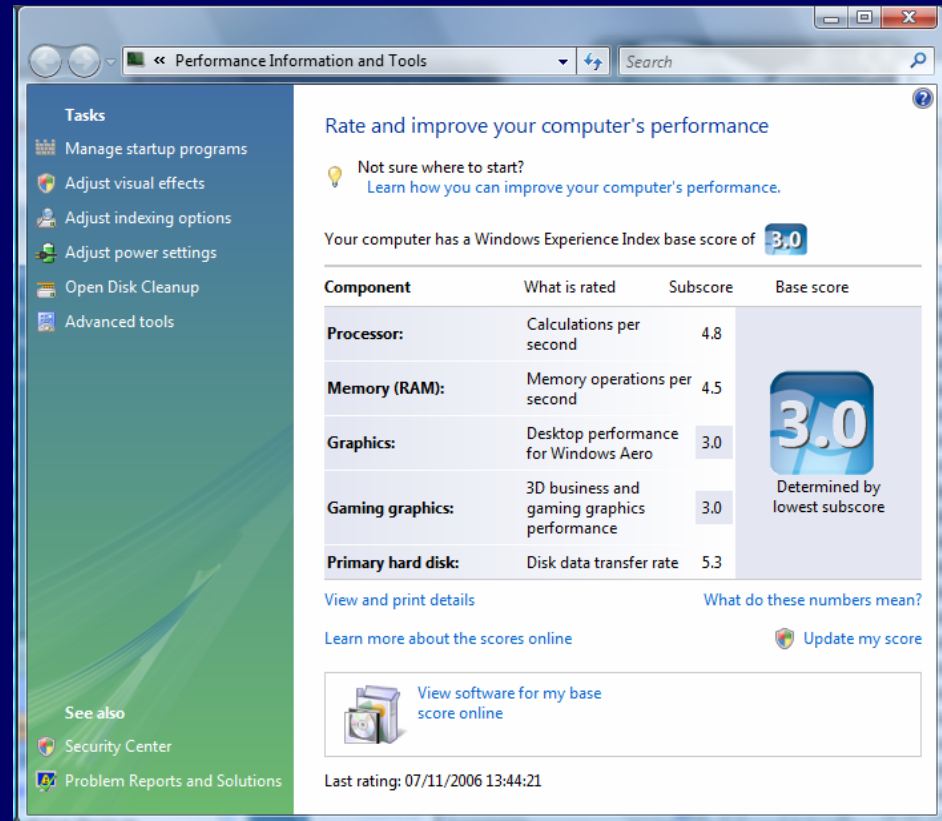- Specific Programs
- Not in business editions

Computer Management

☐ **Much richer tools**

   ■ **Especially disk management and event viewer**

Windows Aero

- 3D effects
- Transparent Windows
- Easy Windows key + Tab app switching
- Requires a reasonable spec machine
- Spec measured by Windows Experience Index
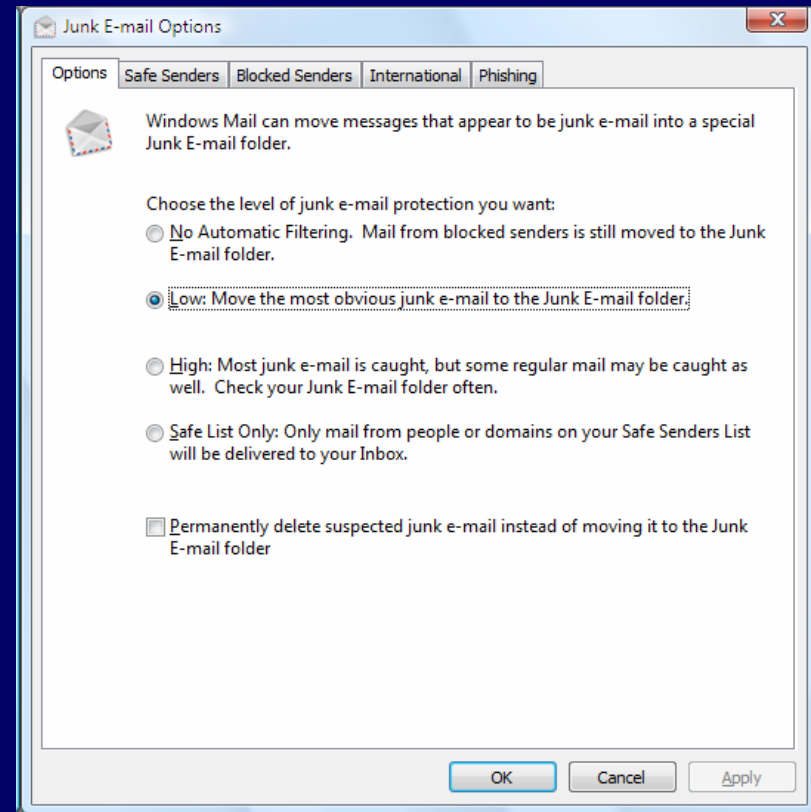- Laptop not powerful enough ☹

Programs and Features

- ☐ Replaces "Add/Remove Programs"
- ☐ Allows viewing of updates
- ☐ Access to digital locker and Marketplace
- ☐ Control Windows "features"
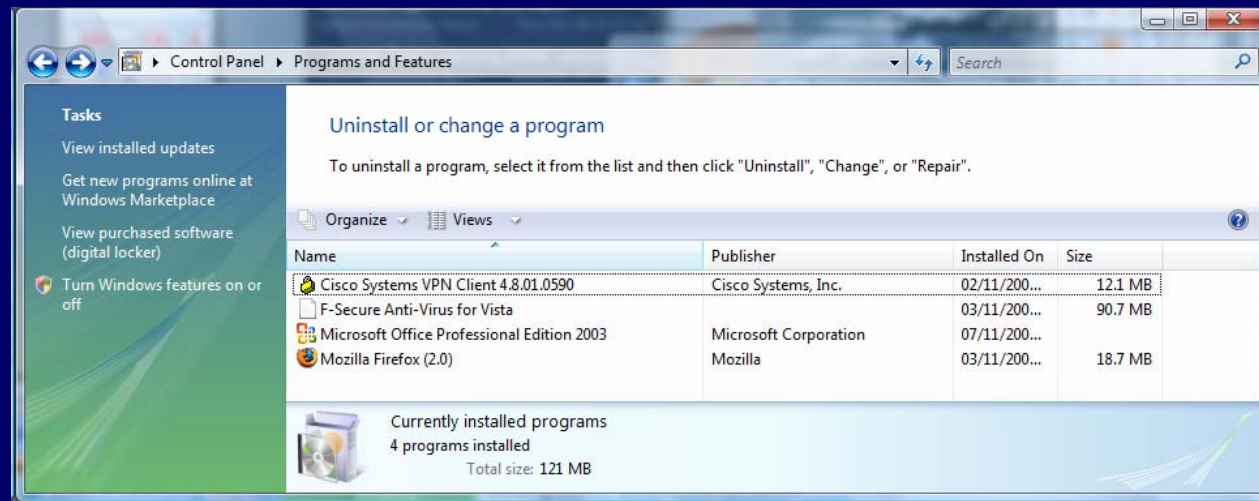
Windows Mail

- Direct descendant of Outlook Express 6
- Reads NNTP news
- Good junk mail features
- Protects from Phishing
- Windows Calendar

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"Default Programs"

- ☐ Allows modifications to:
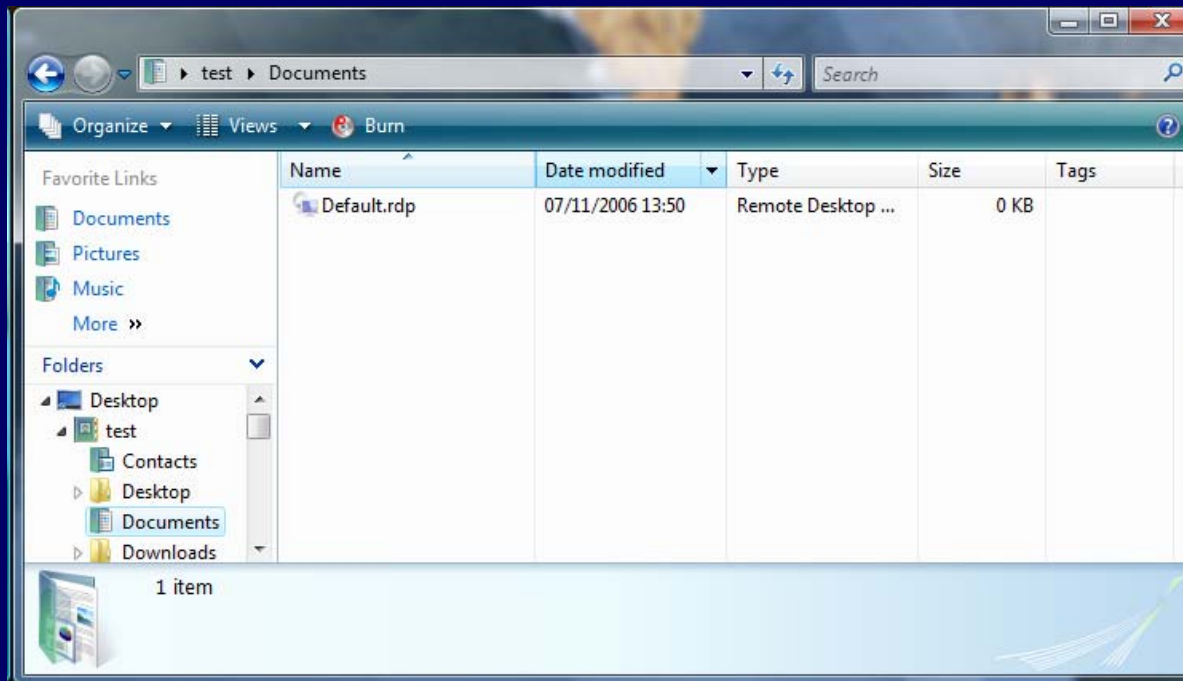 - File associations, Autoplay, Default Programs

Windows Sidebar

- ☐ This is similar to Mac OS X Dashboard
- ☐ Gadgets rather than Widgets
- ☐ Good for watching RSS feeds
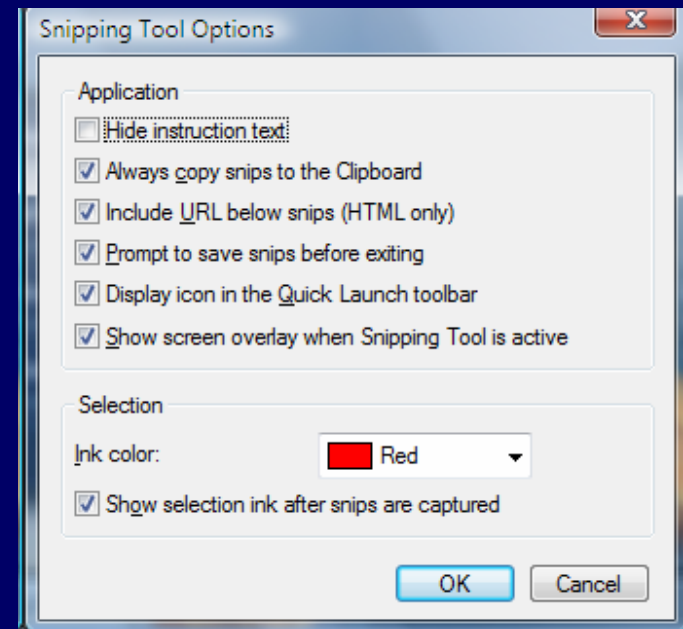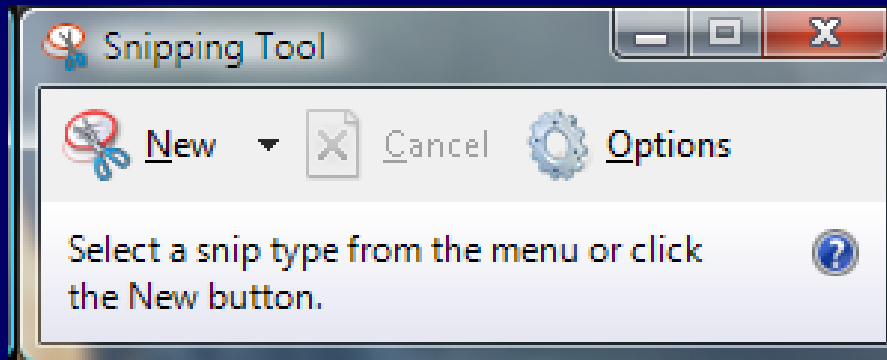- ☐ Many widgets available

Windows Explorer

☐ Looks more like OS X

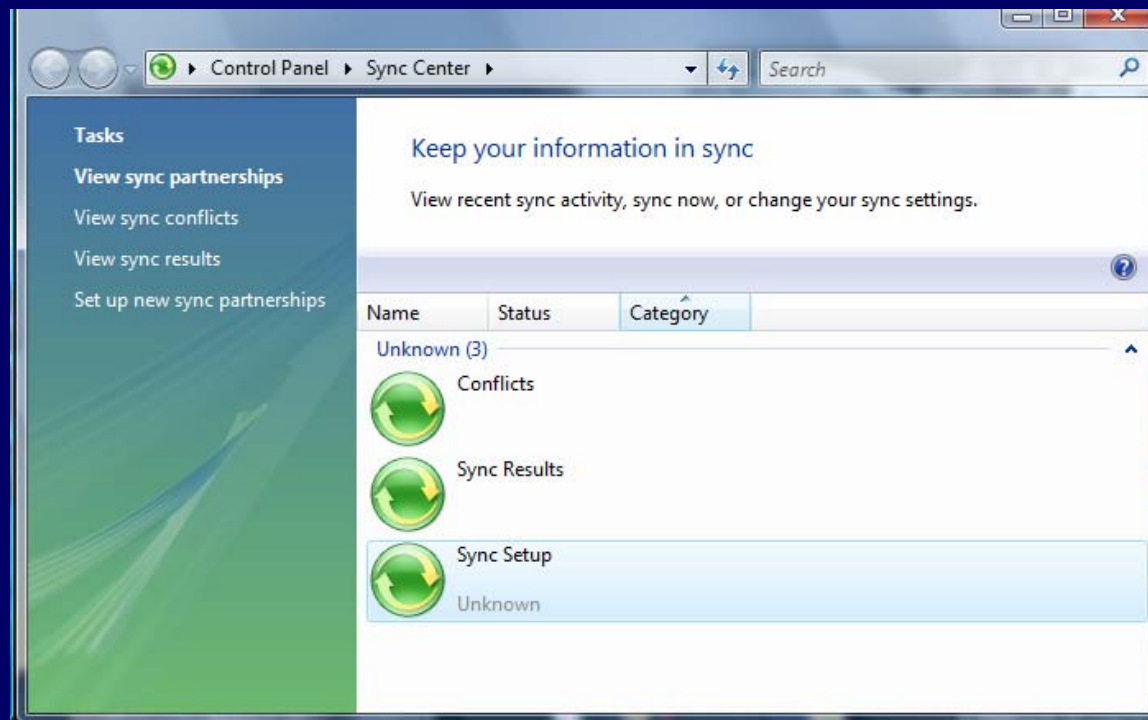☐ File overwrite now offers to rename

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Snipping Tool

☐ Alt-PrintScreen on Acid!

☐ Allows Screen, Window, Rectangle or Freeform image-grabbing

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Sync Center

☐ No time to play with this yet – anyone?

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Licensing and Activation

- Volume Licence Keys with XP meant that volume-licence products didn't require activation
  - Keys often got into the wrong hands
  - They would work on as many machines as you liked
  - Huge potential for piracy
  - Difficult for Microsoft to disable keys without innocent victims!
- Vista changes this so all products now need activation
- Two methods of activation:
  - Key Management Server (KMS)
  - Multiple Activation Key (MAK)

OEM Licence Activation

- Straightforward for home users
- More tricky for volume licences
- If the vendor is pre-installing images there will need to be coordination to make sure the custom-built machines will work with either KMS or MAK
- Vendors may just supply OEM versions with activation keys

KMS Activation

- KMS runs on a server (one for Oxford is ok) and provides activation "leases"
  - Need >=25 machines for it to work
  - Activation renewed every 7 days (configurable)
    - Invisible to user if it succeeds
  - Activation becomes invalid if not renewed in 180 days
  - Machines without valid activation go into reduced functionality mode
    - Constant warnings ensue
    - Windows update will deny access
    - Machine practically unusable
  - Fine for machines that are based in Oxford
  - Advantage that no keys have to be issued
  - Not good for machines in use out in the field

MAK Activation

- ☐ MAK keys will activate a pre-determined number of machines in a similar way to current XP keys

- ☐ Can be done independently or via a MAK proxy if machines don't have internet access

- ☐ MAK keys can also be used over the phone for non-connected machines

What is OUCS doing?

- ☐ KMS set up as a pilot for ITSS use
- ☐ Firewalled to control access
- ☐ Currently around 150 registered nodes
  - ■ Some have registered ranges for non-student machines
- ☐ ITSS request access via its3@oucs.ox.ac.uk
  - ■ Software card number and IP address required
- ☐ ISOs available to ITSS from https://downloads.oucs.ox.ac.uk/itss
- ☐ Wiki page with lots of info at https://wiki.oucs.ox.ac.uk/itss/Windows_Vista
  - ■ Includes how to activate product
- ☐ We will not be issuing MAK keys yet
  - ■ Waiting for more tools from Microsoft
- ☐ EZMLM list vista-activation for further announcements
  - ■ Currently 153 members

What about home use?

- Home use still possible but version is different
    - Must be purchased from OUCS shop in normal way (£20)
    - Will have different (individual) keys to the volume products
    - NOT for students
- Volume licence products must NOT be installed on personal machines
- Not needed for machine supplied with Vista
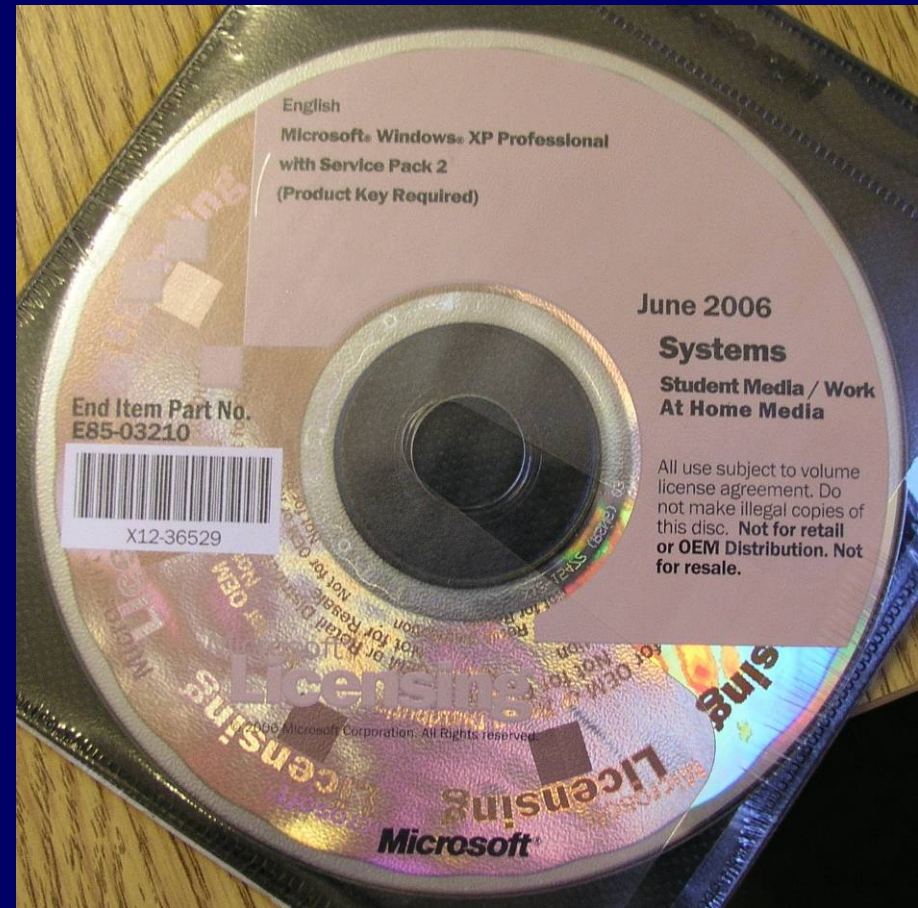
My recommendation

- ☐ Think carefully before you install Vista in production environments
    - ■ Check whether all the packages you use will work with it
    - ■ New machines may come with Vista anyway
- ☐ By all means install it on a spare machine for testing and learning so you are ready to support people who come with personal machines with vista installed
- ☐ Watch the WIKI: https://wiki.oucs.ox.ac.uk/itss/Windows_Vista

References

https://wiki.oucs.ox.ac.uk/itss/Windows_Vista

https://downloads.oucs.ox.ac.uk/itss

https://downloads.oucs.ox.ac.uk/itss/ictst/sophos/

http://www.sophos.com/support/knowledgebase/article/6071.html

http://www.microsoft.com/uk/athome/security/update/windowsvistaav.mspx

http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=305289

https://register.oucs.ox.ac.uk/oxonly/downloads/vpn/windows/latest-untested

http://www.microsoft.com/windows/products/windowsvista/editions/default.mspx

Questions

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