



One Call PC Solutions



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Bits and Bytes...

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issues of the
newsletter.

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We will never forget

We're now at issue #5 of our newsletter! In this issue: Printable newsletters, Ad-ware removal, Pop-up control, KaZaA advice, another Microsoft patch, and our new baby niece!

Hot off the Press (or at least your laser printer)!

We now have printable versions of our newsletters available on our website at <http://1callpcsolutions.com/newsletter.htm> in Adobe Acrobat format. Acrobat Reader can be found at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> if you don't have it. You can also find a link to printable and past issues on the left side of each newsletter.

Plagued by Pop-ups?

It seems that almost every webpage now uses pop-up advertisements. The best product we have found to combat this annoying advertising is published by a company called Panicware. Pop-up Stopper Free Edition is the most effective solutions to web page based pop-up advertising that we have found. They also have a Professional version that has more features available for \$29.95. Honestly, we found that the free version did everything we needed. You can obtain Pop-up Stopper Free Edition at http://www.panicware.com/product_psfree.html.

Be Aware of Ad-ware.

Another common irritation is pop-up advertising that seems to appear out of nowhere. Often times hidden Ad-ware installed on your computer can cause pop-ups even when not online. Ad-ware is often bundled with applications such as KaZaA, many "free" utilities, and some Instant Messengers. Panicware has come to our defense once again in fighting this hidden source of invasions. "Spybot—Search and Destroy" is a free Spy-ware Removal tool that very effectively removes the spy-ware and ad-ware that is attacking your system. There are two important things that you might miss due to lack of documentation. When you get the program installed and it opens the first time, it is important to click on the "Update" button on the left side to make sure that your software has the latest available list of Spy-ware. Also, after it searches and destroys anything found on your computer it is important to click on the "Immunize" button on the left side to prevent recurring problems. You can download it free from http://www.panicware.com/process_download.html?prdid=PSPYWAREREMOVER.

KaZaA has Performed an Illegal Operation...

With estimates of over 60 million users swapping files and less than 300 lawsuits to date, your chances of being the next subpoena issued are pretty slim. The current subpoenas are also only targeting people that are sharing in excess of 1,000 files. I highly doubt that the RIAA is going to sue 60 million people, I really don't think the government would allow that. The simple truth though, is that it is illegal! In my opinion you have a much better chance of winning the lottery than getting caught, but the decision of how much to risk is up to you.

Another Microsoft INSecurity Update...

Researchers have found yet another flaw in Microsoft's Windows 2000 and XP operating systems. The flaw is similar in nature to the one exploited by the MSBlaster worm. Microsoft has released a patch to repair the flaw that you can obtain by running Windows Update from your Start Menu. It is very important to visit the Windows Update site at least one or twice a month to make sure that your computer stays protected against these ongoing threats. The volume of flaws they have found so far just amazes me. If you have trouble getting to the Windows Update site, it can be found here <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com>.

The Last Byte...

We are proud to announce a new addition to our family! Amanda Kirkland, Heather's sister, gave birth to a beautiful 6 lb 8 oz 17" baby girl at 3:11pm on September 10th at Lewisville Medical Center. Kevin and Amanda, the proud parents, named the baby Robyn Alexis Kirkland. You can find pictures of our adorable new niece at <http://heathergeek.com/robyn>.

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