

FCR Tech Tips

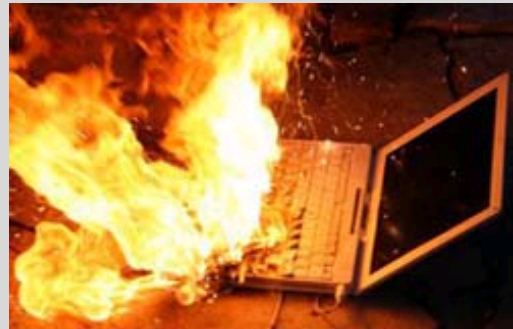
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Fix Your Loud, Overheated Laptop

Many people have laptops that are hot to the touch and noisier than they were in previous years. The problem is most likely the cooling fan. Most laptops have poorly placed fans that cause them to work very hard all of the time. You can easily repair a noisy, overheating laptop with a small phillips screwdriver and a can of compressed air or an air compressor.



If you've ever seen the inside of a desktop computer you've probably noticed the incredible amount of dust that can accumulate inside. Even though a laptop may seem to be sealed tight, dust and particles you've never imagined can get inside. You may not realize that food particles, hair, and many other disturbing things get inside your laptop through the keyboard as well as the air intake.

Cleaning the laptop fan is fairly easy. Unplug the laptop and pull out the battery from the bottom of the laptop. Remove the access panel near the air vent by the fan on the bottom of the laptop. The actual cleaning should be done outdoors as there will be lots of dust being blown out. With your canned air or air compressor, "gently" blow the dirt and dust from the laptop towards the vent making sure that you don't damage anything. Then open the laptop and blow any particles that may be in the keyboard by blowing from one end to the other.

This will help your laptop run cooler and make it quieter.

pcworld.com

Identifying Viruses (continued)

Here are 10 more tips on how to identify a virus on your computer.

1) The computer runs very slowly and it takes a long time to start.

2) Out-of-memory error messages appear, even though your computer has plenty of RAM.

3) New programs do not install properly.

4) Windows spontaneously restarts unexpectedly.

5) Programs that used to run now stop responding frequently. If you try to remove and reinstall the software, the issue continues to occur.

6) A disk utility such as Scandisk reports multiple serious disk errors.

7) A partition completely disappears.

8) An antivirus program is disabled for no reason and it cannot be restarted.

9) You cannot start Windows Task Manager.

10) Your computer always stops responding when you try to use Microsoft Office products.



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