



COMPUTER

COMPLIMENTS OF MICROWIZ DEC-2001

Talk

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

➤ Safeguard your PC from power outages and surges with a UPS.

-IS MY COMPUTER READY FOR WINDOWS XP?

-SAFEGUARD YOUR PC FROM POWER OUTAGES AND SURGES WITH A UPS.

-ARE YOU PROTECTED FROM THE LATEST VIRUS?

-HAVE YOU BACKED UP YOUR FILES?



➤ Is my system ready for Windows XP?

If you are planning to upgrade to Windows XP you will want to see if your computer can support it. The following is the system requirements for Windows XP the new Microsoft Operating System

System Requirements

Both Home Edition and Professional have the same bare minimum requirements:

- 233-MHz processor
- 64MB of RAM
- 1.5GB of available disk space

Microsoft recommends at least:

- 300-MHz processor
- 128MB of RAM

The recommended specs are especially important if you intend to take advantage of such resource-consuming features as having multiple users or tapping into the music, video, and gaming features. If you like to run multiple applications, especially memory-intensive ones, you might want to upgrade your memory to at least 256MB of RAM for a better experience.



As you put the finishing touches on that proposal-*poof!*-the lights go out, your screen goes

blank, and you're left in the dark about just how much of your precious work was lost. Power outages are common, and no one can predict when one will hit. So unless you're ready to lose whatever you have in your system's memory any time the power fails, it's a good idea to safeguard your PC with an uninterruptible power supply. The heart of every UPS is a large battery that kicks on when an interruption occurs in the flow of AC power. Such batteries can typically buy you 5 to 15 minutes or more of additional computing time--enough for you to save open documents and shut down properly. And all good UPS units also protect against surges that can fry your PC's delicate electronics, another compelling reason for you to add one to your list of computing essentials.

Any UPS you buy should meet some basic requirements. A UPS with a rating of about 350VA is about the smallest you should use for a low-powered system with a small monitor. Make sure your unit has enough outlets to handle your needs. Some of the outlets will be backed up by the battery; use them for essentials like your PC and monitor. Others will have surge protection only; use them for nonessential peripherals like printers and scanners.



(Running peripherals off the UPS, especially power-hungry laser printers, can dramatically reduce battery run time.) Power surges have also been known to travel down phone lines, so if you're connected to the Internet by phone line, even digital subscriber line, the UPS should provide in and out RJ-11 jacks with surge protection.



➤ Are you protected from the latest virus?

Many people believe that the antivirus program that was already installed in their computer at the time they purchase it is protecting them from current viruses, this is not true. Purchasing an antivirus program from the store shelves is not much better

You must update your antivirus program regularly to get the best protection.



For example, A system that was purchased on June 2001 with an antivirus program has virus definition files that are at least 5 months old. Viruses that were discovered within that time will not be detected. You may find the steps on how to update your virus definition by searching the HELP files, manual, or the manufacturer's website of the antivirus program you have.

If you would like assistance on updating your antivirus program, you may contact MicroWiz.