Tools, Tips, and Tricks

# PC Maintenance Tools

## CCleaner

Description from website: CCleaner is the number-one tool for cleaning your Windows PC. It protects your privacy online and makes your computer faster and more secure.

Website: http://www.piriform.com/ccleaner

## FreeFileSync

Description from website: FreeFileSync is a folder comparison and synchronization tool providing highly optimized performance and usability without a needlessly complex user interface.

Website: http://sourceforge.net/projects/freefilesync/

## MyDefragPowerGUI

Description: A powerful defrag tool that has a lot of options but is still user friendly and easy to use.

Website: http://www.wieldraaijer.nl/

Download Link: http://www.wieldraaijer.nl/download/MyDefragPowerGUI/MyDefragPowerGUI.zip

## Remove Empty Directories

Description from website: Remove Empty Directories searches and deletes empty directories recursively below a given start folder and shows the result in a well arranged tree. Further you can create some custom rules for keeping and deleting folders. Empty files in directories can also be ignored.

Website: http://sourceforge.net/projects/rem-empty-dir/

## Revo Uninstaller - Portable

Description from [**freewaregenius**](http://www.freewaregenius.com/revo-uninstaller/): Revo Uninstaller is a combination of Windows add/remove replacement, startup manager, and hard drive cleaner.

Website: http://www.revouninstaller.com/index.html

Download link: http://www.revouninstaller.com/start\_freeware\_download.html

Download portable link: <http://www.revouninstaller.com/download-free-portable.php>

## Tweaking Registry Backup

Description from website: Tweaking.com - Registry Backup is a free backup tool that will use the Windows Volume Shadow Copy Service to backup your system registry.

Website: http://www.tweaking.com/content/page/registry\_backup.html

Additional Resource/Review: http://www.freewaregenius.com/backup-and-restore-windows-registry-and-user-profiles-with-tweaking-coms-registry-backup/

## WizTree

Description from website: WizTree is a disk space analyzer. It scans your entire hard drive and shows you which files and folders are using the most disk space. It does this VERY QUICKLY. In fact, we believe WizTree to be the fastest application of this type in the world! Use the information WizTree provides to quickly locate and remove "space hogs" from your hard drive.

Website: http://antibody-software.com/web/software/software/wiztree-finds-the-files-and-folders-using-the-most-disk-space-on-your-hard-drive/

# PC Monitoring and Control

## Process Explorer

Description from Microsoft: Process Explorer is an advanced process management utility that picks up where Task Manager leaves off. It will show you detailed information about a process including its icon, command-line, full image path, memory statistics, user account, security attributes, and more.

Website: http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/bb896653.aspx

## System Explorer

Description: This tool is the Swiss army knife of system monitors. System explorer has all the information you could ever need about your computer and more. It can also be configured to run at all times, giving live information in the notification area.

Website: http://systemexplorer.net/

## Sys Tray Meter

Description: A very light weight program that shows your CPU usage and free RAM in our computers notification area.

Website: Developers website is unknown. Information was obtained from the following site: http://www.freewaregenius.com/systraymeter/

Download Link: http://freewaregenius.com/wp-content/downloads/SysTrayMeter.zip

Note: This program is compatible with Windows 7.

## Super F4

Description from [**freewaregenius**](http://www.freewaregenius.com/superf4-focibly-terminate-any-program-via-hotkey/): Super F4 is launched via hotkey and employs a visual interface whereby you click on the offending program with Super F4’s skull icon to shut it down.

Website: https://code.google.com/p/superf4/

# Search Tools

## Agent Ransack

Description: Windows content search replacement. Agent Ransack is lightning fast and returns more results than standards windows search file search.

Website: http://www.mythicsoft.com/agentransack

## Everything

Description: Find any file or folder on your computer by its name instantly.

Website: http://www.voidtools.com/

# Context Menu

## File Menu Tools

Description from website: FileMenu Tools is a free application which lets you to customize the context menu of Windows Explorer.

Website: http://www.lopesoft.com/en/filemenutools

## Find Target

Description: Right click on a short-cut and in the context menu select the "Find Target" option to open the original file location.

Programmer’s website: http://starpunch.blogspot.com/index.html

## Folder Menu

Description from website: Folder Menu is a folder switching tool. You can quickly jump to your favorite folders in explorer, open/save dialog or command prompt...and more. You can also launch your favorite folders, files or urls.

Website: http://foldermenu.sourceforge.net/

# Text Editors

## Notepad++

Description: This is the most powerful text editor I have ever found. It allows for integration of numerous plug-ins which enhance the tool usability as well. This is the only text editor you will ever need.

Website: http://notepad-plus-plus.org/

## SynWrite

Description: If an alternate to Notepad++ is needed, SynWrite does an awesome job. It has many built in features that notepad++ can only do via plugins. This is yet another fantastic text editor.

Website: http://sourceforge.net/projects/synwrite/

# Improving Productivity

## Grind Stone 2

Description: Grind Stone is a time management and time tracking program. Along with keeping track of what tasks your time is being spent on, it also has several useful reports which show work breakdown.

Website: http://www.epiforge.com/Grindstone/

## Launchy

Description from website: Launchy is a free windows utility designed to help you forget about your start menu, the icons on your desktop, and even your file manager.

Website: http://www.launchy.net/

## PrtScr

Description from website: Sure, there are loads of free screen capture tools, but this is not another cheesy, spreadsheet-looking one. This one offers directness, ease of use, and does it with style.

Website: http://www.fiastarta.com/PrtScr/

## QtTabBar

Description from website: QTTabBar is extension for Windows Explorer that brings tabbed browsing to Microsoft's file browser, along with a host of other great features.

Website: http://qttabbar.sourceforge.net/

## Registry Key Jumper

Description from website: Registry is the heart of the windows operating system and modifying the Registry is not easy but sometimes is necessary, such as you may want to make a customization or repair a registry key or just want to use a Registry trick that you need , Registry Key Jumper v1.0 simplifies the navigation of your registry.

Website: http://www.sordum.org/8110/registry-key-jumper-v1-0/

## Windows 7 Taskbar Tweaker

Description from website: 7+ Taskbar Tweaker allows you to configure various aspects of the Windows taskbar. Most of the configuration options it provides can’t be tweaked using the taskbar properties or the registry.

Website: http://rammichael.com/7-taskbar-tweaker

## Winscp

Description from website: WinSCP is an open source free SFTP client and FTP client for Windows. Its main function is the secure file transfer between local and remote computer.

Website: http://winscp.net/eng/index.php

## Wiz Mouse

Description: WizMouse makes your mouse wheel work on the window under the mouse, not just the window that is currently in focus. It also can enable scrolling in programs that don't normally support scrolling.

Website: http://antibody-software.com/web/software/software/wizmouse-makes-your-mouse-wheel-work-on-the-window-under-the-mouse/

# Tricks

## Windows XP like toolbar

"C:\Users\<USERNAME>\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\Quick Launch"

## God Mode (Windows Master Control Panel)

How to enable - To turn on God Mode, create a new folder on your desktop--or anywhere you'd like--and name it:

GodMode.{ED7BA470-8E54-465E-825C-99712043E01C}

The resulting folder will contain 270 items, representing virtually every configurable option in Windows 7.

## GodMode Installer

Description: Allows quick access to all Control Panel options in a single place for Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 2008(R2) and Windows 8

Website: http://www.wieldraaijer.nl/

Download Link: http://www.wieldraaijer.nl/download/GodModeInstaller/GodMode.exe

# Tips:

## Hot Keys

### Reference for all of Windows 7 hotkeys - <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/keyboard-shortcuts#keyboard-shortcuts=windows-7>

Reference for Outlook 2010 hotkeys - <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/outlook-help/keyboard-shortcuts-for-microsoft-outlook-2010-HP010354403.aspx>

Copy as Path - Hold shift and right click on any item(s) and mid-way through the context menu you will see the option "Copy as Path". This will copy the full path of the selected item or items to your clipboard.

## Custom context menus

Useful website with information on coding your own context menu items - [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/cc144171(v=vs.85).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/cc144171%28v%3Dvs.85%29.aspx)