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Document That Problem:

Have you ever run into a problem with your computer that happened to bring up an error message? Wouldn't it be nice if you could just capture that error message and send it to someone else so they could help you figure out what's wrong? Find the PRINT SCREEN and ALT buttons on your keyboard and you'll be all set. The PRINTSCRN button is located on the top right-hand side of your keyboard right next to the Scroll Lock key. If you hold the ALT and PRINTSCRN keys at the same time, your computer will take a "snapshot" of the active window (which would be the error message). Once you have the image captured, you can paste it in another program and then send it to your "computer expert" for advice. You can put it in MS Word, Notepad, WordPad or even in an e-mail. Once you have the program open, just paste the screenshot. Along with the image, you can type out a description of what you were doing when the problem occurred.

Recommended Requirements To Install Vista On Your Computer:

Vista can be a great addition to your PC; however, if your system's hardware isn't up to it, performance suffers, and you end up with a system that actually runs slower than it did under Windows XP. In addition, some features of Windows Vista don't work at all if your hardware doesn't support them. Although Vista will run on slightly less capacity here is what you really should have: CPU (at least 1 GHz) / RAM (1 GB) / GPU (800 x 600 resolution - supports WDDM / DISPLAY MEMORY (128 MB) / HARD DISK (40 GB - 15 GB Free) / OPTICAL DRIVE (DVD-ROM). You can most likely upgrade these options if they are not present. It may be cheaper to buy a new computer if your PC is too old. The jury is out on if you should upgrade now or wait a few months for the bugs to get worked out.

What Is A Search Engine?

A search engine is a program that searches documents for specified keywords and returns a list of documents (websites) where the keywords were found. There are numerous engines available including in order of preference: GOOGLE, Yahoo, Ask, AllTheWeb, AOL, HotBot, Excite, AltaVista and many more. Each search engine is like a telephone directory allowing you to search for specific information. I suggest putting "quotes" around multiple words to narrow the search.

Next issue: What is the difference between a PC and a MAC?

Janis Weber, owner of Ohio Computer Training, is a personal computer instructor. E-mail any specific questions or comments to jwpctutor@gmail.com or contact her for on-site assistance at 419-885-4255.