

# Larry's newsLETTER

## Disable User Account Control (UAC) the Easy Way on Win 7 or Vista

I've previously written about a way to enable or disable UAC from the command line. This is an easier method that you can use to do the same thing from the GUI interface in either Windows 7 or Vista. To recap my earlier article, UAC is ANNOYING.

Note: Disabling UAC will lead to a less secure system, so be warned.

### Disable UAC on Windows Vista

Open up Control Panel, and type in "UAC" into the search box. You'll see a link for "Turn User Account Control (UAC) on or off":

On the next screen you should uncheck the box for "Use User Account Control (UAC)", and then click on the OK button.

You'll need to reboot your computer before the changes take effect, but you should be all done with annoying prompts.

### Disable UAC on Windows 7

Windows 7 makes it much easier to deal with UAC settings, and in fact you don't have to completely disable UAC if you don't want to. Just type UAC into the start menu or Control Panel search box.

You can simply drag the slider up or down, depending on how often you want to be alerted.

If you drag it all the way down to the bottom, you'll have disabled it entirely.

## Access Hidden Regional Themes in Windows 7

Windows 7 offers you location specific Aero themes based on the language and location you pick during installation. Here we will take a look at accessing other hidden themes from different countries.

When you first start the Windows 7 installation the first thing you will do is select a language, time and currency format. This is where Windows determines what themes you're presented with by default.

Being from the US I'm presented with location specific themes from the United States with desktop backgrounds such as scenery from Maine, Idaho, Oregon etc.

To access the other international themes copy and paste the following path into the search box and hit Enter.



### Techie Term:

#### DVD-R

Stands for "Digital Versatile Disc Recordable." A DVD-R looks the same as a regular DVD, but like a CD-R, it can be used to record data. Once a DVD-R has been "burned," or written to, it cannot be written to again. A basic single-sided, single-layer DVD-R disc can store 4.7GB of data. Double-layer discs can store 8.5GB, while double-sided DVD-Rs can store 9.4GB.

Every so often, i whisper "I'm on your side" to my computer...just in case they succeed in taking over the world one day



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C:\Windows\Globalization\MCT

In the MCT folder you will find additional themes for Canada, Australia, South Africa, and Great Britain.

You can go in and grab just the Wallpapers...

Or go into the Theme folder double click on the thumbnail to add it.

Here you can see I added all of them and now they will be available under the My Themes section for when you want to change them around.

This is a neat little trick that will let you customize Windows 7 with hidden themes already available. Also if you want to get more themes head over to the Microsoft site.

## Manage Devices the Easy Way with Device Stage in Windows 7

Remember in Vista how it was an annoying chore getting it to recognize external devices like printers, phones, and digital cameras? Well now in Windows 7 there is a cool feature called Device Stage that allows you to easily see and manage all of your external devices from one spot.

### Using Device Stage

To check out the digital devices you have connected to your PC go to Start and Devices and Printers.

This opens up a nicely laid out visual display of all of the devices connected to the computer.

When you first start it notice that you can click on the message about getting device information from the Internet. This will keep devices updated with the most recent information and drivers.

The cool part is that when you first plug in a device Windows 7 will install the drivers almost instantly.

After plugging in the device you can see it in the Taskbar where you can hover over it to get a nice looking image of it and some limited information. For instance I plugged in a



**This Months Quote:**  
**Jesus saves! The rest of us better make backups.**  
**~Author Unknown**



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Creative Zen and can see how much battery life is left and the amount of space left on it. You can also right click on the device and access certain controls as well.

Now when you click on the device you will presented with an easy to navigate control panel of sorts that allows you to manage the settings and features of the device.

Here is a shot of a printer connected and you can see there are a bunch of options for managing it.

It is up to the hardware manufacturer to determine if their device will be compatible with Device Stage. The way to determine this is to simply plug in the device and see if Device Stage opens up. All of the newer devices I plugged in were recognized, some with more features to manage them than others, again this is up to the manufacturers and the firmware installed. This new feature is a great way to get your devices working without having to deal with installing drivers. Cool!

## Access Frequently Used Items in Windows 7 with Jump Lists

Finding a way to easily access recently used files, folders, and websites could be annoying in previous versions of Windows. Today we take a look at the new Jump List feature in Windows 7 that allows you to quickly access recently used items.

### Using Jump lists

To access jump lists Right-click a program icon on the Taskbar, like in this example of Internet Explorer. Notice too that you can pin those items to the Taskbar if you wish.

When you have the jump list open click the first letter of an item to jump between them.

Periodically you might want to clear out the jump list history, to do this Right-click on Start and choose Properties.

Now under the Start Menu tab uncheck one or both boxes under Privacy to clear the Taskbar or Start menu item history or both.

This is an awesome new feature in Windows 7 that makes navigating items a lot faster.

dear pocket,  
your cool & every-  
thing, but can u  
please for the love of  
God stop calling /  
texting random peo-  
ple when i let u hold  
my phone...



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**Alarm Clocks.  
Because every  
morning should  
begin with a  
heart attack.**

## **New Features in WordPad and Paint in Windows 7**

WordPad and Paint are often overlooked accessories included in all versions of Windows since 95. They are still included in Windows 7 and now have a new look with some enhanced features. Here we will take a look at some of the new improvements.

### **Classic WordPad**

WordPad has always come in very handy as a quick and easy to use text editor for documents. Rather than opening up a new Word session to make simple adjustments, WordPad can save a lot of time. In fact it is all some users need to create basic letters and other simple documents.

### **WordPad 6.1 w/ Ribbon UI**

The new WordPad in Windows 7 includes the nicely laid out Ribbon interface which has been a feature in Office 2007 and in the forthcoming 2010. If you are new to the Ribbon, it does take getting used to, but once you do, you'll wonder how you did without it before.

To access commonly used commands easier, just Right-click the button and choose "Add to Quick Access Toolbar".

## **Computer Quotes**

If computers get too powerful, we can organize them into committees.  
That'll do them in. ~Author Unknown

Never let a computer know you're in a hurry. ~Author Unknown

The problem with troubleshooting is that trouble shoots back.  
~Author Unknown

Three things are certain: Death, taxes, and lost data. Guess which has occurred. ~David Dixon, 1998



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What may be considered the coolest new feature, it includes the ability to read and write documents to Office Open XML format, which supports Open Office (.odt) and IBM Lotus Symphony suites.

Like in pervious versions you can insert a Paint drawing.

## **Paint**

Of course we would be remiss if we didn't show the new Ribbon UI included in the new version of Paint.

Easier to access options for editing projects.

The main menu offers more choices for saving, printing images etc.

It looks like the Ribbon is around to stay and it's nice to get uniformity between Windows applications. Paint and WordPad may seem like forgotten accessories, but the new look and improvements might warrant a second look.

How about you? We are curious how many of you still use WordPad or Paint and what you think about the new interface. Just leave us a comment and let us know.

## **Quality Education for your Children**

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Voucher	250	500	1000	2000	5000
Peachtree	\$81.95	\$106.95	\$147.95	\$239.95	\$599.87
Nebis	\$82.50	\$113.50	\$154.50	\$259.95	\$649.87
McBee	\$82.50	\$113.50	\$154.50	\$259.95	\$649.87
Deluxe	\$82.50	\$113.50	\$154.50	\$259.50	\$649.87
Intuit	\$79.99	\$109.99	\$149.99	\$239.99	\$599.87
Nelco	\$103.45	\$137.85	\$188.00	\$343.40	\$637.00
Greatland	\$103.45	\$137.85	\$188.00	\$343.40	\$637.00
LTCG	\$63.75	\$79.90	\$101.15	\$154.70	\$280.50

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We have partnered with several different companies to provide a wider range of services.

We now offer low cost printer ink and toner.

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We have partnered with Spam Bully and offer a 10% discount on the product. Call us for more information or to sign up.

Tired of remembering all those passwords for all your different websites?

We have also partnered with Roboform and offer a 10% discount on the product. Call us for more information or to sign up.

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## **How to tell if a Redneck has been working on a computer:**

10. The monitor is up on blocks.
9. Outgoing faxes have tobacco stains on them.
8. The six front keys have rotted out.
7. The extra RAM slots have Dodge truck parts stored in them.
6. The numeric keypad only goes up to six.
5. The password is "Bubba".
4. There's a gun rack mounted on the CPU.
3. There's a Skoal can in the CD-ROM drive.
2. The keyboard is camouflaged.

**AND the number way to tell if a Redneck has been working on a computer is...**

1. The mouse is referred to as a "critter".

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