

Personal Computer Tutor

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IObit Update

IObit is the name of a software company that makes software for *Windows*. I use a number of their programs and install it on my client's computers. *Advanced System Care* is a maintenance program that helps to keep your *Windows* computer in tip-top shape. From time to time you may see an "update" notice from *IObit*. It is OK to download the update.



"Updates" are different than "upgrades". A lot of programs I use are free but of course the software companies would like to "upgrade" you to the paid version. Paid versions usually unlock new features which you may or may not need/want. As a general rule I say just stick with the free version. In the case of *IObit's Advanced System Care* they usually sell the "upgrade" for \$19.95 or less so it is not going to break the bank. But if you would rather not then just stick with the update and skip the upgrade. So in the future pay attention to the difference between "update" and "upgrade" and if you are ever asked to pay for and "upgrade" don't do it unless we decide it is right for you.

Some programs like *Norton* require a yearly fee to keep their program active. This is different and does require that you pay your yearly fee (unless you are with *Comcast* in which case you get Norton for free).

Apple Introduces New Laptop Models

Apple just introduced new MacBook Air and MacBook Pro laptop models so if you are in the market for a new Mac you may be wondering if you should buy now. What I usually tell my clients is that Apple rarely discounts their products so the one time you can get a discount is when new models are introduced and retailers want to deplete existing inventories. So if you don't need the latest and greatest (I'm still using the first generation *iPad* and I bought my Mac Mini when the new model came out.) now could be a great time to purchase a new Apple laptop. For new computers look for discounts on existing inventory at the Apple Store and Best Buy. If you are looking for even more of a deal look to refurbished Apple products directly from the <u>Apple refurbished store</u> and at <u>www.cowboom.com</u>.



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Note: If you do want to purchase an older refurbished model understand that if you go to far back you may not be able to use if for certain things like <u>iCloud</u> and *iPhone* syncing. For example if you want to sync your new *iPhone* with a *Mac* computer you can't go back to the G4 days or even some G5 days. If the

CPU is a *PowerPC* instead of an *Intel* CPU then you won't be able to upgrade to *Snow Leopard* or *Lion*, let alone the upcoming *Mountain Lion*. At the very least make sure you are buying an *Intel* CPU with at least 4 GB of RAM so the operating system can be upgraded <u>iCloud system requirements</u> and <u>10.8</u> <u>Mountain Lion system requirements</u>.

<u>Mac OS X Versions</u> 10.8 = Mountain Lion 10.7 = Lion 10.6 = Snow Leopard 10.5 = Leopard 10.4 = Tiger 10.3 = Panther 10.2 = Jaguar

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