

Computer Bits by Mark Eggert of Raad One Network Solutions, Inc.

Welcome to Computer Bits, a series of articles on computers and network information. This month we'll take a look at an application called Diskeeper.

In my normal routine of testing and using a number of different pieces of software, I noticed that after installing one large application my computer slowed down dramatically. So I did the usual things to try to recover the speed, I ran the drive defragmenter from Windows XP, I ran Checkdisk, and I ran anti-spyware and anti-virus sweeps. None of this helped with the speed of my computer. I did remember reading an article recently about a product called Diskeeper, which has been around since the early days of Windows, so I thought I'd give it a try.

You can read more about Diskeeper and download a 15 – day trial at [www.diskeeper.com](http://www.diskeeper.com) if you'd like to try it before buying it. This is what I did and I must say it has greatly improved my computer's performance. After installing it and running the analyzer, I found I had a couple of problems with my computer. Besides the drive still being somewhat fragmented, my pagefile was fragmented (which hurts performance) and my Master File Table (MFT) was almost full and needed to be expanded. Diskeeper was able to handle all three of these problems and now my computer is running much better. The best feature of Diskeeper is the "Set it and forget it" feature which lets you set some parameters for Diskeeper and it will then work in the background keeping your drive in good shape. This alleviates the need to run defragmenting programs manually on a regular basis.

Diskeeper has three version, Home, Professional, and Network. The Home and Professional versions work on computers while the Network version also has a server version of the program which allows you to defrag your server's drive. For businesses, the additional features of the Professional version are will worth the increase in price over the Home version. In fact, I would recommend the Professional version for home computers as it is able to work with the pagefile and the MFT where the Home version isn't. If you'd like to also use this program on your server there is a Small Business Edition which has 1 server license and 5 desktop (Professional) licenses.

I'd like to add that if you'd like to evaluate or use this product, I'd be happy to work with you on getting is installed and setup.

If you have a computer or network question you'd like answered and you think others would like to know the answer too, please forward them to me. My email address is [meggert@wi.rr.com](mailto:meggert@wi.rr.com), my phone number is 262-679-7704 and my fax number is 262-679-7664.