

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

Welcome to Computer Bits, a series of articles on computers and network information. In this month's article I'm going to let you know of the gotcha that happened to me with a Windows Vista upgrade.

A couple of months ago I found myself needing to reinstall my Windows XP computer. Figuring this was a good chance to do a Vista upgrade, I started my downloading and running the Windows Vista Upgrade Advisor. This application from Microsoft analyzes your software and hardware of your Windows XP computer and gives you a printable report. First this report tells you if your hardware will support Vista and it will tell you what hardware if any will need to be replaced. Next it will tell you what installed software will need to be uninstalled before upgrading. This software may need to be replaced or just simply reinstalled after the upgrade, the report will let you know this. The last part of the report will tell what software will need to be patched or updated before it can be run on Vista. In most cases the software will not need to be uninstalled but simply patched or updated. My next step was to follow the recommendations of the report, I did need to replace my video adapter and several pieces of software.

One surprise for me was my accounting package, Peachtree Complete 2006. The report did not indicate any problems with but when I tried to run the program after upgrading, I received an error that told me that my version of the program would not run on Vista. Search the support on Peachtree's web site confirmed this and that I needed to upgrade to the newest version. Even after purchasing and installing the new version I still had problems that I have to make a support call to get fixed. The moral of the story here is to check all of your installed software before upgrading, even if the advisor's report doesn't mention any problems with them.

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.