

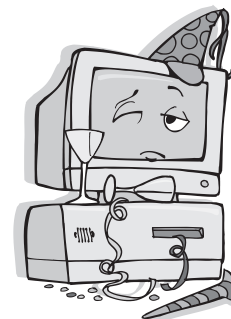
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Happy New Year!

Everything's new, a new year, a new administration in Washington (but congress is proving to be the same), and almost everybody is changed over to the new circuit here at Pyramid.Net.

We hope that the downturn in the economy isn't treating you too badly but we have some suggestions, see the other side for Internet shopping savings!



Tech Tip:

If you feel the need to upgrade your system but don't want to spend money on a brand new system, we have listed pieces that will give you the most bang for your buck!

Memory - you will find that your computer seems to work more smoothly as you can have several windows open doing different things at once.

Flat Screen - this new piece of hardware will do several things for you as a user. It is easier on your eyes if you use the computer for any length of time. It is the most visible part of your computer, so you will feel like you are getting more than your wallet reflects.



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We're on the Web!
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Savings on the Internet

We, at Pyramid.Net, understand the additional stress that these economic times are posing for everyone. It's affecting everyone differently but we all still have to purchase things and we would like to show you what options the Internet can provide you. We have found that purchases over the Internet can have advantages both economic and convenience. The shipping that you pay is more than offset by the savings that you receive. A search on the Internet will even find you coupon codes that grant you free shipping and sometimes additional discounts!

For instance, Amazon.com is a good resource for everything books, DVDs and music. They have almost everything available, most with descriptions and reviews from previous customers. They also provide a forum for other customers to sell their used items at very reasonable prices. EBay.com is another website that offers almost everything at good prices and lots of payment options. A lot of items are posted for sale by auction but many are "buy it now" that you can purchase with relative ease at your convenience. These sites usually use the cheapest method to deliver your purchases right to your door. Craigslist.com has a local edition that sells things in your area that you can pick up yourself for free. And on all these websites you can post your opinions and sell your own used items. These websites make you a businessperson as well as a consumer. The web is only a community because of contributions from people like us! Bob and I have a theory that we think will save you money in the long run. Buy quality stuff but only buy it once. Better to research which products are really good and lay them away until you can pay it off than to buy the same type of item every couple of years because it wears out. Bob assembled his stereo system over many months laying it away at audioclassics.com until it was paid off and they shipped it out to him. We have found that in the long run this method saves money. Even if new technology comes out, nothing can compare to the quality pieces that you can build over time; Bob has had his electronics for over 10 years and they are still working well. He uses audiogon.com and Audio Classics (www.audioclassics.com) to build his systems.

The Importance of Battery Backups

"The weather is starting to turn unpredictable again." Computers are very temperamental when it comes to a steady flow of power, because of wind, snow, power is not the most stable in terms of voltage. Be it in the minerals in the ground, or lightning, we are stuck with fluctuating voltage. This can lead to problems over the long run if you leave things running all the time. A good investment is a surge protector. A better investment is a battery backup. Both of these will help in keeping voltage at a more steady input. The battery backup will last longer and provide more power especially to a network of computers. If there is lightning in the area, it is best to not only shut down computers, but to unplug them from the wall and this includes the phone line. Surges from lightning can and do travel through the phone lines and can damage computer parts. Those power strips you see advertised as able to take lightning strikes are not able to withstand a direct or near direct strike, so better safe than sorry. Just turn things off and wait it out.

Postini - Filter Out The Spam!

Just a reminder, that Pyramid.Net has a low cost Spam Filter available for our customers. This will cut down on both the download time and you're personal filtering, making it easier for both you and your computer! Call any of our technicians for a short introduction to Spam Filters and to have Postini added to your account.

About Our Organization

Pyramid.Net aims to provide you the best that the latest and greatest communication resources that are available. We offer free Internet classes once a month and unlimited phone support until 6pm weekdays to make this activity as convenient for you as possible. Remember that Pyramid.Net has a referral policy in which we will extend you a \$5 credit on your next bill plus a month free for the new customer that you refer. Call us at 884-3202 and tell us how we can best serve you!



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