

Index

Symbols and Numerics

! (exclamation point) icon, 68–69
3Com router information, 217
10Base-T, 200
100Base-T, 200
802.11 standards, 204–206
1394 (FireWire) network adapter, 72
2001: A Space Odyssey (Kubrick), 79

• A •

AC adapter (power adapter)
checking, 31–32
definition of, 29
problems with, determining cause
of, 29–30
problems with, not providing power, 308
problems with, overheating, 304
problems with, spilled liquids on, 303
using when traveling, 324–325
AC (alternating current) voltage, 29
access point, 218–219
Accessibility Options, Control Panel, 64
ACDSee software, 297
Active Protection System, IBM, 117
active-matrix designs for LCD, 189
adapter. *See also* AC adapter; video display
adapter
Bluetooth adapter, 331
network adapter, 72
wireless network adapter, 72, 199, 204,
214–216
Adapters, Device Manager, 72–73
Ad-Aware software, 286
Add Hardware, Control Panel, 64
Add or Remove Programs, Control Panel,
64–65, 279
Administrative Tools, Control Panel, 65
Adobe Photoshop, 297
Adobe Photoshop Elements, 297

adware, 284, 285–287
air travel. *See* travel
alarms, 13, 107
alternating current (AC) voltage, 29
altitude, effect on laptop, 319
AM (amplitude modulation), 226
analog signal, 226
antistatic strip, 18
antivirus software
disabling before installing software, 278
preventative use of, 19, 22, 287, 296
treating viruses with, 45, 314–315
for wireless networks, 204, 212
applications. *See also* background
applications; software
installed by user, 276
installed with operating system, 275–276
installing, 64–65, 277–278
stopping, 278
uninstalling, 41, 64–65, 279–280
arrows in commands, usage of, 2
artificial intelligence, 79
audio
problems with, 41–43
recording and editing, 297–298
automobile power outlets, 324

• B •

background applications
automatically loaded at startup, 284
CPU usage of, checking, 283
determining purpose of, 283
displaying, 280–283
shutting down, 282, 283–285
backlight, 58–60
backup battery, failure of, 45
backups of data, 20, 123
backward compatible, 89, 204, 255
base station, 199, 216
Batteries, Device Manager, 70

- battery
 - advancements in, 12–13
 - alarm for low levels of, 13, 107
 - backup battery, failure of, 45
 - charging when not regularly used, 21
 - charging when traveling, 324–325
 - checking, 31–32
 - memory effect of, 12–13
 - problems with, determining cause of, 30–31
 - problems with, not providing power, 307
 - replacing, checking BIOS settings after, 45
 - replacing, cost of, 21
 - battery charger. *See* AC adapter
 - Belarc Advisor Web site, 81
 - binary system, 87–88, 91
 - BIOS (basic input/output system)
 - configuring Boot Sequence, 261
 - configuring for new hard drive, 133–134
 - configuring for screen, 44–45, 191, 313–314
 - definition of, 100–102
 - diagnostics from, 102–105
 - erasing and updating (flashing), 107–108
 - loading, screen display when, 313
 - requirements for Windows XP, 257
 - BIOS password, 105
 - bits (binary digits), 87, 240
 - BiX Computers, EZ-Gig kit, 137, 265–267
 - BiX Computers Web site, 258
 - Bluetooth adapter, 331
 - Bluetooth technology, 221–222
 - boot disk, 119
 - boot sectors, repairing, 268
 - Boot Sequence (Boot Order), 261
 - boot track corruption, 309–310
 - booting
 - from alternate drives, 40, 107, 261, 263–264
 - definition of, 125
 - diagnostics from, 102–105
 - problems with, 40
 - Safe Boot, 46–48
 - Briefcase, Windows, 22
 - broadband technologies, 227
 - browser history, clearing, 22
 - burning odor, 304–305
 - bus, 209, 240
- C •
- cable modems
 - definition of, 228–231
 - problems with, 237–238
 - capacitor, failure of, 45
 - CardBus. *See* PC Card
 - case of laptop
 - cleaning, 19, 23
 - closing while running, alarm for, 107
 - durability of, 10
 - protection given by, 117
 - CD drives
 - external, 161–162
 - installing, 160–161
 - physical damage to, 157–160
 - repairing or replacing, 160–162
 - settings for, 72
 - CD-Rs
 - cost of, 150
 - definition of, 148–149
 - traveling with, 331–332
 - using with DVD drive, 162
 - CD-RWs, 149–150, 162
 - CDs
 - audio, playing on DVD player, 162
 - backups to, 20
 - booting from, settings for, 40
 - capacity of, 151
 - compatibility with other drives, 149, 150, 158–159, 162
 - cost of, 150
 - data on, loss of, 28–29
 - data transfer rate of (read speed), 151, 152
 - definition of, 147–151
 - emergency CDs for traveling, 332–333
 - history of, 145–147
 - problems installing from, 271
 - problems with, determining cause of, 35–37
 - problems with, scratches on, 158
 - problems with, stuck in drive, 159
 - rewrite (erase) speed of, 152
 - shape of, 36
 - speed of, 152
 - uses of, 147
 - write speed of, 152–153
 - writing to, not turning off laptop during, 16

cigarette lighter outlets, 324
Clarke, Arthur C. (“The Sentinel”), 79
clean install
 for Windows 98, 271–273
 for Windows XP, 259–264
clusters
 on floppy disk, 142
 on hard disk, 119
coaxial cable, 229
collision, 200
components. *See also specific components*
 adding, 64
 failure of, 28
 information about, displaying, 68–73
compressed air, 165–166
computer. *See* desktop; laptop
Computer, Device Manager, 70
computer memory. *See* RAM (random
 access memory)
concentrator, 201
Control Panel. *See* Windows Control Panel
Controllers, Device Manager, 72
conventions used in this book, 2, 4
cookies, 286
CPU, upgrading, 108–109
CPU usage, checking, 11, 283
CRT display, 186–187
Crucial Technologies Web site, 84
cylinders, 124

• D •

data
 backups of, 20, 123
 on CDs, loss of, 28–29
 drive failures causing loss of, 28–29, 39
 on DVDs, loss of, 28–29
 on floppy disk, loss of, 28–29
 on hard drive, loss of, 28–29
 on hard drive, protecting, 20
 on hard drive, recovering, 268, 302
 protecting, 20
data buffers, 121
Data Over Cable Service Interface
 Specification (DOCSIS), 230
Data Sources (ODBC), Administrative
 Tools, 65
data transfer speed
 of CDs, 151, 152
 of hard disks, 116, 121
Date and Time, Control Panel, 65
DC (direct current) voltage, 29
DDR (Double Data Rate), 88–89
dead pixels, 189
DEC (Digital Equipment Corporation),
 197–198
defragmentation utility, 19, 23, 290–291,
 293–294
desktop, 7, 15
desktop layout, 71
device drivers
 definition of, 102
 for external pointing devices, 183
 restoring to previous settings, 73–75
Device Manager, Control Panel
 devices listed in, 69–73
 indications of problems shown in, 68–69
devices. *See* components
diagnostics, 102–105
dial-up telephone modems
 definition of, 227–228
 problems with, 236–237
Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC),
 197–198
Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), 231
direct current (DC) voltage, 29
direct memory access (DMA), 243
dirt, protecting laptop from, 16
disaster recovery service, 39
disc, 2. *See also* floppy disk; DVDs
disk, 2. *See also* floppy disk; hard drive
Disk drives, Device Manager, 70–71
disk operating system (DOS), 140, 291
Diskkeeper software, 293–294
Diskkeeper, Undelete software, 292–293
display. *See* screen
display adapter. *See* video display adapter
Display adapters, Device Manager, 71–72
Display, Control Panel, 65
D-Link router information, 217
DLL (dynamic link library), 277
DMA channels, 66–67
DMA (direct memory access), 243
DOCSIS (Data Over Cable Service Interface
 Specification), 230
DOS (disk operating system), 140, 291

Double Data Rate (DDR), 88–89
 double density disk, 141
 Driver Tab, Device Manager, 69
 drivers. *See* device drivers
 drives. *See* CD drives; DVD drives; floppy drive; hard drive
 DSL (Digital Subscriber Line), 231
 DSL modems
 definition of, 231–232
 problems with, 237–238
 durability of laptops, 9–10
 dust, protecting laptop from, 16
 DVD drives
 external, 161–162
 installing, 160–161
 physical damage to, 157–160
 repairing or replacing, 160–162
 settings for, 72
 using CDs with, 162
 DVD+R DLs, 156
 DVD-RAMs, 156
 DVD-Rs, 155–156
 DVD+Rs, 156
 DVD+RW DLs, 156
 DVD+RWs, 156
 DVD-RWs, 156
 DVDs
 compatibility with other drives, 158–159
 data on, loss of, 28–29
 definition of, 153–155
 history of, 146–147, 153
 problems with, 35–37, 158, 159
 types of, 155–156
 uses of, 147
 writing to, not turning off laptop during, 16
 dynamic link library (DLL), 277

● E ●

ECC (Error Checking and Correcting)
 memory, 90–92
 802.11 standards, 204–206
 Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory (E-PROM), 101

electricity. *See* power supply
 electronic odor, 304–305
 electrostatic shock, 17–18, 97
 emergency CDs for traveling, 332–333
 end-user license agreement (EULA), 262–263
 E-PROM (Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory), 101
 ErgoStand, Mobility Electronics, 325–326
 Error Checking and Correcting (ECC)
 memory, 90–92
 error messages, 305–306
 Ethernet, 200–201
 Ethernet cable, traveling with, 327–328
 EULA (end-user license agreement), 262–263
 Event Viewer, Administrative Tools, 65
 exclamation point (!) icon, 68–69
 .exe file, 277
 external CD drives, 161–162
 external DVD drives, 161–162
 external floppy drive, 141
 external hard drive, 134–138
 external keyboard, 169–170
 external modems, 232–235
 external pointing devices, 183
 external ports
 physical damage to, 306–307
 protecting, 16
 external storage, 134–138
 EZ-Gig kit, 137, 265–267

● F ●

fan, replacing, 305
 FAT (File Attribute Table), 126–127, 143, 271–272
 FDISK.EXE utility, 134, 272
 fiber optic cable, 229
 files, undeleting, 289–290, 292–293.
 See also data
 firewall
 with cable modem, 231
 for networks, 201–202
 for wireless networks, 204, 212

FireWire, 242, 245, 251–252
FireWire network adapter, 72
flash memory keys
 backups using, 20
 definition of, 116–117, 138, 328
 sneakernet using, 140, 220
 uses of, 328–329
flashing BIOS settings, 107–108
floppy disk
 booting from, settings for, 40
 data on, loss of, 28–29
 definition of, 141–142
 internal drive for, 57
 lifetime of, 143
 physical damage to, causes of, 144
 writing to, not turning off laptop
 during, 16
floppy drive
 definition of, 142–143
 external, 141
 history of, 139–141
 lifetime of, 143
FM (frequency modulation), 226
fonts used in this book, 2
FORMAT.EXE utility, 134, 273
formatting of hard drive, 124–127
Forrester, Wesley
 advice from, regarding laptop sellers, 62
 advice from, regarding repair or
 replacement, 57–60
fragmentation, 290
free public wireless network, 312
frequency modulation (FM), 226
The Fresh Start upgrade option. *See* clean
 install

• G •

game controllers, Device Manager, 73
gateway, 201
“giga” prefix, 91
The Great Migration upgrade option,
 264–267
grounding, 18
GUI (graphical user interface), 173

• H •

hard drive
 capacity of, 119–120
 clean install on, 259–264, 271–273
 cloning, 258, 264–267
 configuring, 133–134
 controller for, 72
 data on, loss of, 28–29
 data on, protecting, 20
 data on, recovering, 268, 302
 definition of, 113–116, 117–119
 defragmenting, 19, 23, 290–291, 293–294
 durability of, 10
 electrical connections to, checking, 38–39
 external, 134–138
 formatting, 124–127, 260, 269
 full, clearing space on, 40–41
 history of, 114
 installing, 127–134
 jumpers for, setting, 131–133
 maintenance utilities for, 19
 migrating contents to new drive, 264–267
 new, configuring, 267–269
 partitioning, 124–125, 259, 260, 269
 problems with, boot track corruption,
 309–310
 problems with, determining cause of,
 37–39
 problems with, not working, 123–124,
 308–311
 problems with, physical damage to, 302
 repairing boot sectors, 268
 repartitioning, 260
 replacing, 39, 258–259
 requirements for Windows 98, 269
 requirements for Windows XP, 256
 serial ATA (SATA), 121, 122
 size of, 114–116
 speed of, 116, 120–121
 Utility partition for, 259, 267
 writing to, not turning off laptop
 during, 16
 writing to, without operating system, 269
hardware. *See* components

hardware firewall, 201, 231
 headphones, 326–327
 heavy objects on laptop, avoiding, 16
 hibernation, settings for, 13
 high-level formatting, 126–127
 history in browser, clearing, 22
 hot swappable USB devices, 244
 hotspots
 advantages of, 208
 definition of, 199, 227
 finding, 206
 hub, 201, 219, 244
 hub-and-spoke design for Ethernet, 200
 humidity, 16

• I •

IBM, 197–198
 IBM Active Protection System, 117
 icons used in this book, 4
 IEEE 1394 (FireWire), 242, 245, 251–252
 iGo EverywherePower 7500, 324–325
 images
 database for, 297
 editing, 297
 space requirements for, 257–258
 infrared (IR) technology, 223
 infrared port, 183, 223
 Intel Pentium M, 11
 internal modems, 72, 232, 235–236
 Internet, history of, 198
 inverter, 50, 58, 60
 IR (infrared) technology, 223
 IRQs (system interrupts), 66–67
 ISP (Internet service provider), 228

• J •

joysticks, 175. *See also* pointing devices
 jumpers for hard drive, 131–133

• K •

keyboard
 care of, 164–165
 cleaning, 23–24, 165–168
 compared to desktop keyboard, 163
 definition of, 163–164
 external, 169–170

 monitoring, 72
 problems with, electronic failure of, 168–170
 problems with, mechanical failure of, 164
 problems with, spilled liquids on, 32–35, 164, 166, 303
 removing keys to clean, 167–168
 replacing, 169, 170–172
 skin for, 165
 Keyboard, Control Panel, 66
 Keyspan Mini Port Replicator, 248
 Keyspan Presentation Remote, 330
 Keyspan USB Parallel Printer Transfer Cable, 248
 Keyspan USB Serial Adapter, 249
 KILLCMOS software, 107
 “kilo” prefix, 91
 Kingston Technology Web site, 84
 Knowledge Base, Microsoft, 65, 306
 Kubrick, Stanley (2001: A Space Odyssey), 79

• L •

LAN (local area network), 208
 laptop. *See also* components
 care of, 16–24, 317–320
 compared to desktop, 7, 15
 durability of, 9–10
 history of, 8
 physical damage to, recovering from, 301–302
 problems with, determining cause of, 10, 27–29, 117
 problems with, not starting, 307–308
 problems with, when new, 37
 reasons to use, 8
 repairing, 55–60
 replacing, 55–60
 sellers of, 9, 60–62
 size of, 8
 stand for, 325–326
 storing, 20
 weight of, 9
 latency, 121
 LCD screen. *See* screen
 LED (light-emitting diode), 174
 LIFO (last in, first out), 292–293
 Linksys router information, 217

liquid crystal, 188
liquids, damage from
 humidity, 16, 319
 rain, 16
 spilled liquids, 28, 32–35, 164, 166, 303
lithium ion batteries, 12–13
local area network (LAN), 208
local loop, 228
Local Security Policy, Administrative
 Tools, 65
low-level formatting, 124

• M •

MAC (media access control) filtering, 213
magnetic fields, 16, 45, 319
malware
 adware and spyware, 285–287
 definition of, 275
 identifying, 284–285
 sources of, 275–276
 viruses, 45, 140, 314–315
manufacturers of laptops, 9, 60–62
master hard drive, 131
mean time between failures (MTBF), 97
mechanical mouse, 174
mechanical sensors, 173
mechanical trackball, 174
media access control (MAC) filtering, 213
“mega” prefix, 91
memory. *See* RAM (random access memory)
memory effect, of batteries, 12–13
memory keys. *See* flash memory keys
MicroDIMM module, 93
microprocessor
 definition of, 78
 failure of, 28
 monitoring, 73
 requirements for Windows 98, 269
 requirements for Windows XP, 256
 software demands on, 83
Microsoft Broadband router
 information, 217
Microsoft Knowledge Base, 65, 306
Microsoft Update Web site, 268
Microsoft Windows. *See* Windows
Microsoft Windows Update, 21
migration, 264–267
mil-spec laptops, 17, 165

Mini Port Replicator, Keyspan, 248
mini-PCI slot, internal modem installed as,
 235–236
Mobility Electronics ErgoStand, 325–326
modems
 cable modems, 228–231, 237–238
 dial-up telephone modems, 227–228,
 236–237
 DSL modems, 231–232, 237–238
 external, 232–235
 history of, 225–226
 internal, 72, 232, 235–236
 for networks, 199
 types of, 227
 for wireless networks, 217
modulator-demodulator. *See* modems
motherboard
 information about, displaying, 70
 microprocessor on, 73
 problems with, determining cause of, 60
 problems with, spilled liquids on, 303
 replacing, 59
 upgrading, 108–109
mouse, 174, 178–179. *See also* pointing
 devices
Mouse, Control Panel, 66
MTBF (mean time between failures), 97
multimedia software, demands on
 microprocessor, 83

• N •

network adapter, 72
network interface card. *See* NIC
network password, 105
networks. *See also* wireless networks
 alternatives to, 220–221
 enabling on laptop, 199
 Ethernet and, 200–201
 hardware components for, 201
 history of, 197–198
New Technology File System (NTFS),
 126–127, 271
NIC (network interface card), 72, 199,
 201, 214
NiMH (nickel metal hydride) batteries,
 12–13
Noise Stop! Pro-Luxe noise-canceling
 headphones, 326–327

nonvolatile memory, 20
 Norton Partition Magic, 125
 Norton Protected Recycle Bin, 292–293
 Norton Speed Disk, 293–294
 Norton SystemWorks, 295–296
 Norton Utilities, 295
 notebook computer. *See* laptop
 NTFS (New Technology File System),
 126–127, 271
 null modem cable, 221

● 0 ●

ODBC, 65
 OEM (original equipment manufacturer),
 169, 262
 100Base-T, 200
 operating system. *See* Windows
 optical drives. *See* CD drives; DVD drives
 optical mouse, 174
 optical sensors, 173
 optical trackball, 174
 optomechanical mouse, 174
 original equipment manufacturer (OEM),
 169, 262
 overheating of laptop, 304–305

● p ●

packets, 200, 244
 parallel circuit, 240, 241
 parallel port
 definition of, 239
 problems with, 249–251
 reasons no longer used, 247–248
 partitioning, 124–125
 passwords for Windows, 105–107
 PC. *See* laptop
 PC Card
 definition of, 242–243
 history of, 242
 internal modem installed as, 236
 network adapters and, 72–73
 types of, 243
 PC Card attached hard drive, 136–137
 PC Card drives, 138
 PC Card wireless transceiver, 214
 PCMCIA adapters, 72–73

PCMCIA card. *See* PC Card
 peak memory, 283
 Performance, Administrative Tools, 65
 performance, CPU usage, 11, 283
 phone cord, traveling with, 327–328
 Photoshop, Adobe, 297
 Photoshop Elements, Adobe, 297
 piconet, 222
 pixels, 187, 189
 plain old telephone service (POTS), 227
 plastic, static electricity and, 18
 PNY Technologies Web site, 84
 pointing devices
 advancements in, 14
 care of, 177
 cleaning, 178–180
 external, 183
 monitoring, 72
 problems with, 177–178
 settings for, 180–182
 types of, 173–176
 pointing sticks, 175. *See also* pointing
 devices
 portable computer, 8
 ports. *See* external ports
 POTS (plain old telephone service), 227
 power adapter. *See* AC adapter
 power circuitry inside laptop, failure of, 32
 power failure, 28
 power management utilities, 13
 Power Management Utility, Control
 Panel, 66
 power strip, traveling with, 330–331
 power supply. *See also* AC adapter; battery
 advancements in, 11
 demands on, 11–12
 power surges and, 17–18
 static electricity and, 17–18, 97
 surge protector for, 18, 330–331
 voltage fluctuations and, 10, 97
 powered hubs, 244
 Presentation Remote, Keyspan, 330
 presentation tool, 329–330
 printer port, 247
 private wireless network, 311
 problems. *See* troubleshooting
 processes. *See* applications
 Processors, Device Manager, 73

programs. *See* applications; software
proprietary card, 92
protocols for cable modems, 230
PS/2 port, 183

• R •

radio frequency. *See* RF
RAID controllers, Device Manager, 73
rain, protecting laptop from, 16
RAM (random access memory)
amount installed, determining, 86–87
amount of, appropriate for specific
laptop, 81–82
amount of, recommendations for, 79–81
amount of, too much, 83
cleaning, 100
cost of, 85–86
definition of, 78
expansion slots for, 81–82, 85
installing, 84, 94–95
lifetime of, 97–98
manufacturers of, 84
module design of, 92–93
power used by, 83
problems with, determining cause of,
95–100
problems with, during installation, 99–100
refresh speed for, 90
requirements for Windows 98, 269
requirements for Windows XP, 256
shared RAM, 80
types of, 88–92
warranty for, 86
recovery CD, 267–269
Recovery Console, 268–269
recovery disk, Windows 98, 270
Recycle Bin, emptying, 22
red circle with “X” icon, 69
refresh speed, 90
Registry, 277, 295
remote control, 330
repeaters, 207
resolution of screen
advancements in, 14
definition of, 187
settings for, 72
reverse engineering, 262

RF (radio frequency)
interference from, 210–211, 234–235, 319
tablet stylus using, 176
ring design for Ethernet, 200
router, 201, 204, 213, 216
ruggedized laptops, 17, 165

• S •

Safe Boot, 46–48
safe computing, 277
SATA (serial ATA), 121, 122
screen
advantages of, 185
appearance settings, 72
backlight for, 58–60
BIOS settings and, 44–45, 191, 313–314
brightness, adjusting, 43, 191
cleaning, 19, 23
definition of, 187–189
desktop layout for, 71
disadvantages of, 186
history of, 186–187
inverter for, 50, 58–59, 60
problems with, determining cause of,
43, 49–53
problems with, hardware failure, 48–49
problems with, no display, 313–314
problems with, only splash screen
displayed, 314
problems with, physical damage,
50, 301–302
problems with, video display card,
190–193
problems with, Windows causing, 46–48
replacing, 49, 50
resolution of, 14, 72
settings for, 65
themes for, 71
video display adapter for, 71–72, 187
screen brightness, adjusting to conserve
power, 13
screen saver, 71
SCSI and RAID controllers, Device
Manager, 73
SDRAM (Synchronous Dynamic Random
Access Memory), 89

- sectors
 - on floppy disk, 141
 - on hard disks, 119
 - security
 - passwords for Windows, 105–107
 - for wireless networks, 211–213, 312
 - Security Center, Control Panel, 66
 - sellers of laptops, 9, 60–62
 - “The Sentinel” (Clarke), 79
 - sequential media, 78
 - serial ATA (SATA), 121, 122
 - serial communication, 240
 - serial port
 - definition of, 239, 241
 - external, 183
 - reasons no longer used, 57, 248–249
 - Services, Administrative Tools, 65
 - shared RAM, 80
 - shareware, 286
 - signal boosters, 207
 - SimpleTech Web site, 84
 - size of laptop, 8
 - skew, 241
 - slave hard drive, 131
 - SmartModular Technologies Web site, 84
 - smoking, causing damage to laptop, 318
 - sneakernet, 139–140, 220
 - SODIMM (Small Outline Dual In-line Memory Module), 92–93
 - soft modem, 232
 - software. *See also* antivirus software; applications
 - audio recording and editing, 297–298
 - compatibility with Windows XP, 257
 - defragmentation utility, 19, 23, 290–291, 293–294
 - error messages from, 305–306
 - image database, 297
 - image editor, 297
 - malware, 275–276, 284–287
 - pushed onto computer, 276
 - safety of, 277, 278
 - system tune-up, 295–297
 - used in this book, 255–256
 - software firewall, 202, 204, 231
 - Sony Sound Forge, 298
 - sound. *See* audio
 - Sound and Audio Devices, Control Panel, 66
 - Sound Forge, Sony, 298
 - Sound, video, and game controllers, Device Manager, 73
 - special needs, 64
 - spilled liquids. *See* liquids, damage from
 - spread-spectrum frequency hopping, 222
 - Spybot software, 286
 - spyware, 285–287
 - SQL (Structured Query Language), data sources for, 65
 - stand for laptop, 325–326
 - startup disk, 260–261
 - static electricity, 17–18, 97
 - storage system, 78. *See also* CD drives; DVD drives; floppy disk; hard drive
 - subscription-only wireless network, 312
 - Supervisor password, 105
 - surge protector, 18, 330–331
 - Synchronization Manager, 22
 - Synchronous Dynamic Random Access Memory (SDRAM), 89
 - System devices, Device Manager, 73
 - System Information report, 87
 - system interrupts (IRQs), 66–67
 - System Mechanic Pro, 296
 - System Restore utility, 73–75
 - system settings, restoring, 73–75
 - system tune-up software, 295–297
- T ●
- tablets, 176, 179. *See also* pointing devices
 - Task Manager
 - background applications, displaying, 280–283
 - performance, checking, 11
 - stopping applications, 278
 - telephone modems, 227–228
 - teletype, 186
 - temperature, variations or extremes of, 16, 318–319
 - Temporal Key Integrity Protocol, 212
 - temporary Internet files, clearing, 22
 - 10Base-T, 200
 - themes, 71
 - thermotropic crystals, 188
 - 3Com router information, 217
 - 1394 (FireWire) network adapter, 72

throughput. *See* data transfer speed
 time, setting, 65
 T-Mobile hotspots, 206
 toroidal coil, 319
 Toshiba hotspots, 206
 Toshiba MK4025GAS hard drive, 258
 touch pads, 176, 180. *See also* pointing devices
 trackballs, 174–175, 178–179. *See also* pointing devices
 tracking sticks, 175. *See also* pointing devices
 tracks
 on CDs, 151
 on floppy disk, 141
 transmission range, 205
 travel
 accessories and supplies for, 324–333
 air travel, protecting laptop during, 16–17, 33
 preparing laptop for, 21–22, 320–322
 troubleshooting. *See also* malware; *specific components*
 BIOS settings and, 44–45, 133–134, 191, 313–314
 boot-up diagnostics, 102–105
 causes of problems, determining, 10, 27–29, 117
 component information, displaying, 68–73
 error messages, 305–306
 laptop not starting, 307–308
 Windows not loading, 40–41
 Turing, Alan (Turing Test), 79
 2001: A Space Odyssey (Kubrick), 79

• U •

unbalanced system, 230
 Undelete software, Diskeeper, 292–293
 undeleting files, 289–290, 292–293
 Universal Serial Bus controllers, Device Manager, 73
 Universal Serial Bus (USB), 242, 243–246
 USB external hard drives, 134–136
 USB memory keys. *See* flash memory keys
 USB Parallel Printer Transfer Cable, Keyspan, 248
 USB ports, 73, 183, 246

USB Serial Adapter, 249
 USB (Universal Serial Bus), 242, 243–246
 User password, 105
 Utility partition, 267

• V •

vents, care of, 304, 318
 video controller, 48–49, 73
 video display adapter
 definition of, 71–72, 187
 problems with, 190–193
 requirements for Windows 98, 269
 requirements for Windows XP, 256
 vinyl, static electricity and, 18
 virtual memory, 283
 viruses. *See also* malware
 from floppy disks, 140
 recovering from, 45, 314–315
 symptoms of, 314
 VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol), 230
 voltage converter. *See* AC adapter
 voltage fluctuations, 10, 97
 volume, setting, 41–42

• W •

water damage. *See* liquids, damage from
 Web browser history, clearing, 22
 Web site resources
 ACDSee software, 297
 Belarc Advisor, 81
 BiX Computers, 258
 BiX Computers, EZ-Gig kit, 137, 265
 Diskeeper software, 293, 294
 hotspots, 206
 Keyspan Presentation Remote, 330
 memory manufacturers, 84
 Microsoft Knowledge Base, 65, 306
 Microsoft Update, 268
 Norton Protected Recycle Bin, 293
 Norton Speed Disk, 294
 weight of laptop, 9
 WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy), 212
 WiFi networks. *See* wireless networks
 WiFi Protected Access (WPA), 212
 WiFi (wireless fidelity), 203

- Windows
 - not loading, 40–41
 - passwords for, 105–107
 - version of, in this book, 2, 255
- Windows 98
 - CDs, problems installing from, 271
 - installing, 269–273
 - system requirements for, 269
- Windows 2000, Recovery Console, 268–269
- Windows Briefcase, 22
- Windows Control Panel
 - accessing, 67
 - Add or Remove Programs, 64–65, 279
 - Device Manager, 68–73
 - features of, 63–67
- Windows Logon password, 105
- Windows Registry, 277, 295
- Windows Update, 21
- Windows XP
 - booting from alternate drive, 263–264
 - EULA (end-user license agreement) for, 262–263
 - installation CD, traveling with, 332–333
 - installing, 263
 - patches for, 268
 - Recovery Console, 268–269
 - reinstalling, 310–311
 - Safe Boot options, 46–48
 - software installed with, 275–276
 - system requirements for, 256–257
 - upgrading to, options for, 258
 - upgrading using clean install, 259–264
 - upgrading using migration, 264–267
 - versions allowed to upgrade to, 262
- Winmodem, 232
- Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP), 212
- wireless fidelity (WiFi), 203
- wireless network adapter, 72, 199, 204, 214–216
- wireless networks
 - Bluetooth technology for, 221–222
 - components for, 204, 214–215
 - definition of, 203–204
 - hotspots for, 199, 206, 208
 - infrared (IR) technology for, 223
 - problems with, 311–312
 - radio frequency (RF) interference, 210–211, 234–235, 319
 - reasons to use, 206–208
 - security and, 211–213, 312
 - setting up, 208–211, 216–220
 - standards for, 204–206
 - types of, 311–312
 - upgrading laptop for, 213–216
- wireless port, 183
- wireless remote control, 330
- wireless router, 213, 216–217
- wireless transceiver, 214, 215–216
- WPA (WiFi Protected Access), 212



X icon, 69



yellow circle with ! icon, 68–69



ZIF (zero insertion force), 109