

STARTERGUIDE



Thank you!

Thank you for your purchase! We want to make your experience a satisfying one, so we've put together tips to help you get started with your Gateway computer.



Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Getting started with Windows | 4 |
| Windows Welcome Center | 7 |
| Getting help | 8 |
| Internet | 10 |
| E-mail | 11 |
| Using CDs and DVDs | 12 |
| Safety and security..... | 14 |
| Improving performance | 19 |
| Restoring your system..... | 20 |

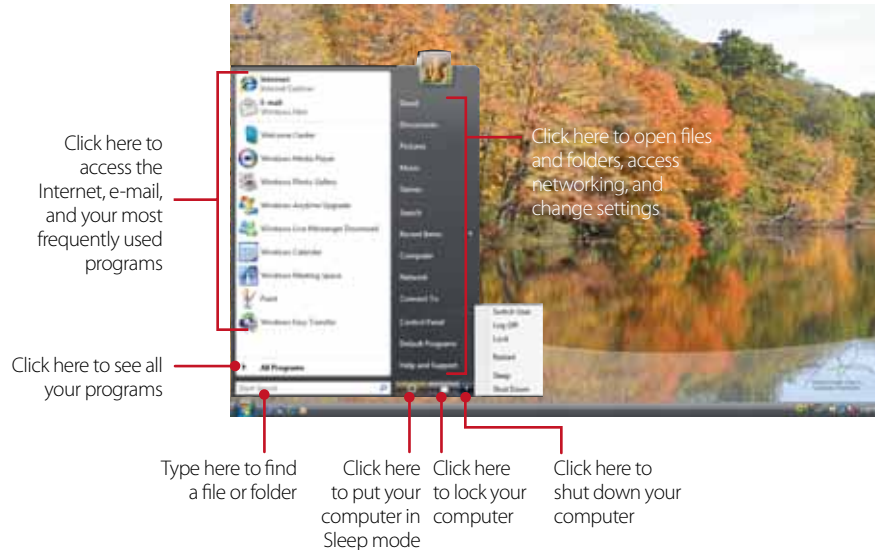
we do Windows

After you start your computer and complete the Windows® setup, the first thing you'll see on your screen is the Windows desktop. The desktop includes a taskbar, *Start* button (Ⓜ), and *Recycle Bin* icon. Other icons may be added depending on your computer's configuration.



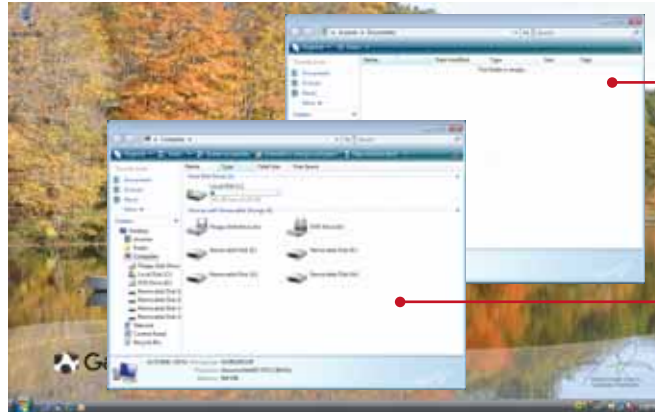
getting things started

The Start menu is the *command center* of your computer. Whether you want to start a program, find a file, change settings, or even shut down your system, the Start menu is where it all begins.



maintaining order

Managing files and folders starts with the **Computer** folder. From there, you can see everything on your computer. To get there, click **® (Start)**, then click **Computer**. To save something right away, use the **Documents** folder that has already been set up for you. To access that folder, click **® (Start)**, then click **Documents**.



Documents

Already created for you, this folder is ready for immediate use

Computer

Look here to see what's on your computer

welcome to the Welcome Center!

The Welcome Center offers a wealth of options for getting more information about your computer, as well as links to special deals from Gateway partners! To access the Welcome Center, click **® (Start)**, **Control Panel**, then click **System and Maintenance**. Click **Welcome Center** and select an option.



need additional help?

If you need a little extra help with something on your computer, Gateway offers several options designed to meet your needs:

- **Gateway Web support**—Available 24/7, Gateway's online support provides current drivers, product specifications, tutorials, and personalized information about your computer. Visit us at www.support.gateway.com.
- **Help and Support**—This collection of Windows help and troubleshooting information, along with automated support, is easily accessible. Just click **Ⓢ (Start)**, then click **Help and Support**. Click a link, do a search, or simply browse to find what you're looking for.



Gateway's Web support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



Help and Support is a quick and easy way to get information

help, continued...

- **User guide**—For detailed information on using your Gateway computer, see the provided *Reference Guide* or online *User Guide*. To access the online guide, click **Ⓜ (Start)**, **All Programs**, then click **Gateway Documentation**.
- **Tech support**—For help and advice you can trust, talk to people who know computers. You can find the number on the setup poster that came with your computer.
- **BigFix***—Pre-installed for you on your Gateway computer, BigFix checks your computer for problems and conflicts and lets you know if it finds something. To start BigFix, click **Ⓜ (Start)**, **All Programs**, then click **BigFix**. Click **Help**, then click **Tutorial** to learn more about it.



Check your User Guide for easy-to-understand information on a variety of topics

*May not be available in all regions

surfing the 'net

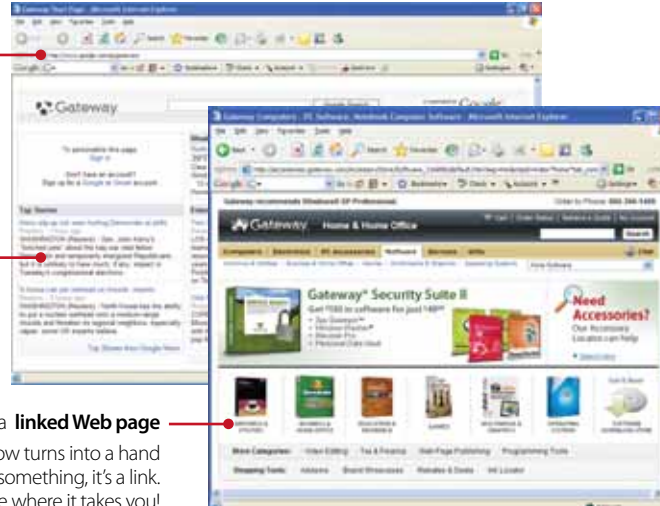
Explore the World Wide Web with an Internet connection. Just connect your computer to a telephone line, Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), or cable TV line and sign up with an Internet Service Provider (ISP).

To get to the Internet, click **(Start)**, then click **Internet** or the ISP you've connected with. Type in an Internet address, such as www.gateway.com, click **Go**, and you're on your way.

The **address bar** is where you type in the Internet address or URL (Universal Resource Locator)

This is a **Web page**

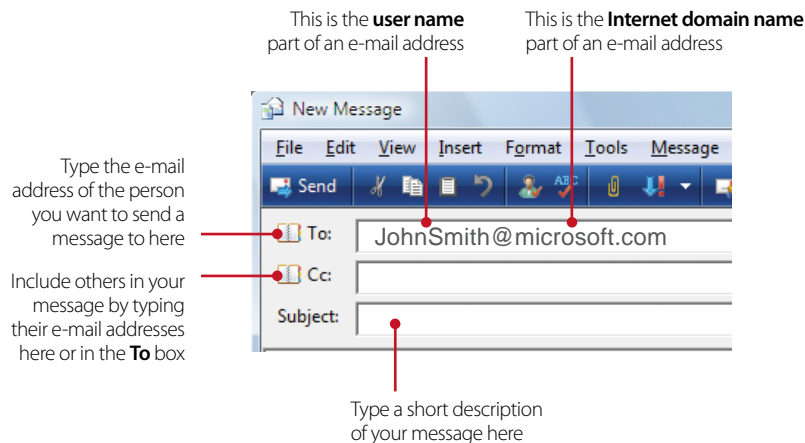
This is a **linked Web page**
If your pointer arrow turns into a hand when you move over something, it's a link. Click on it and see where it takes you!



welcome to e-mail!

Staying in touch with family and friends is easy with e-mail and is usually free with your Internet account.

To send e-mail, connect to your ISP, click **@ (Start)**, then click **E-mail**. When your default e-mail program opens, complete any setup required, then click **Create Mail** and type the e-mail address of the person that you want to send a message to in the **To** box. Add a description in the **Subject** box, type the e-mail message, then click **Send**. Your message will arrive at most e-mail addresses in seconds.



for your listening and viewing pleasure...

Enjoy listening to favorite music CDs or watching DVDs with software already installed on your new Gateway computer.

To listen to a music CD or watch a movie on DVD, click **® (Start)**, **All Programs**, then click **Windows Media Player**. Put the disc into the CD or DVD drive on your computer, then click the **Play** button (▶). You can control how the music CD or video DVD plays from Windows Media Player.

Note: You must have a DVD drive to play a DVD



Songs or scene selections from the disc you are playing are listed here

Click these buttons to play, pause, or stop disc playback. You can also control the volume here.

rip, burn, play

Create a custom music CD with MP3s you *rip* yourself, or create a video DVD of home movies or special videos. If your computer came with a DVD burner, you can do it all with easy-to-use software already installed on your Gateway computer.

Create an MP3 music file

To create an MP3, click **Ⓜ** (**Start**), **All Programs**, then click **Windows Media Player**. Put a music CD in the disc drive on your computer, then click **Rip**. Make sure that the songs you want to create MP3s of are checked, then click **Start Rip**. Windows Media Player will create MP3s and save them to the Music folder.

Create a DVD

To save content such as data or movies to DVD, open Windows Media Player and put a blank, writable DVD into the DVD burner on your computer. Click **Burn**, then select the items you want to save by right-clicking on the item and selecting **Add to Burn List**. When your selections are complete, click **Start Burn**.

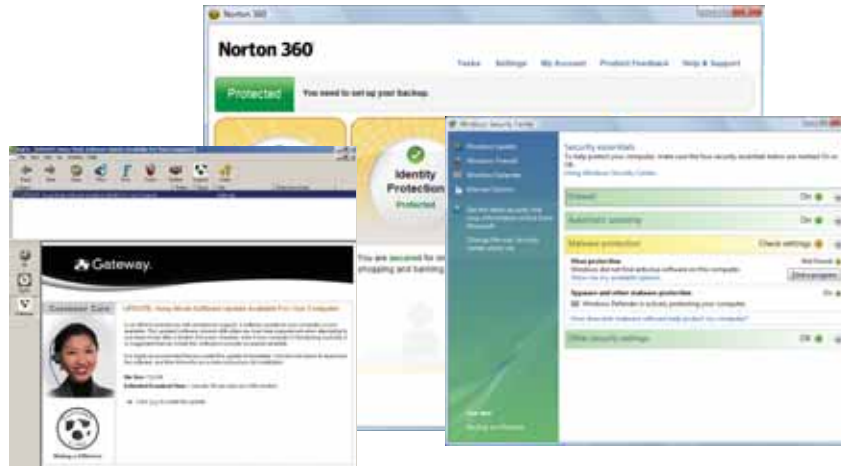


Note: you must have a DVD burner to create a DVD

keeping your computer safe

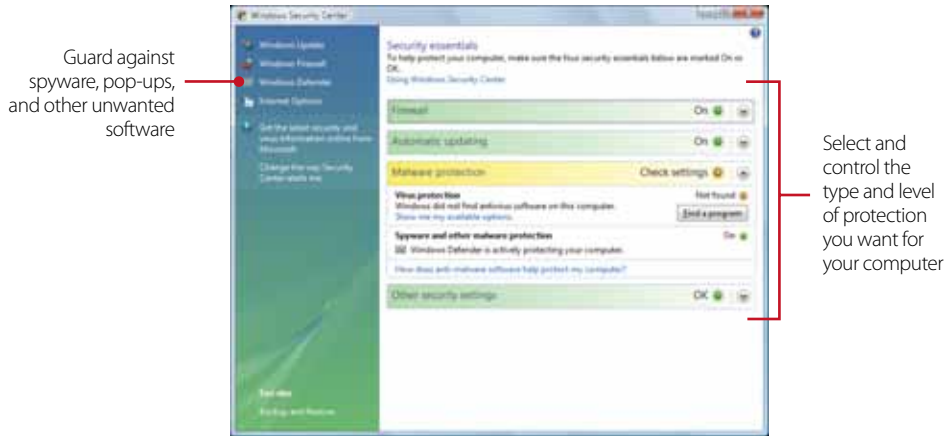
Your Gateway computer comes with hardware and software features that can help you keep your computer secure and up-to-date. Use these tools regularly to improve the security of personal information stored on your computer:

- **Windows Security**—Provides access to security features such as Windows Security Center, Windows Firewall, Windows Update, and Windows Defender—all built into Windows Vista
- **Norton 360**—Reduces the chances of a virus affecting your computer
- **BigFix**—Monitors your computer for problems, and alerts you if something is detected



securing the perimeter

Windows Vista provides built-in security features designed to protect you, your family, and your computers. To view or change Windows Vista security settings, click **® (Start)**, **Control Panel**, **Security**, then click **Security Center**.



Windows Update

If a hacker finds a way to bypass the security features built into Windows Vista, Microsoft creates a high-priority Windows update to fix the problem. You should update Windows regularly to keep your computer secure.

To run Windows Update, click **(Start)**, **All Programs**, then click **Windows Update** and download high-priority updates.

You can
schedule
automatic
updates with
Windows
Update



virus-free with Norton 360

Norton 360

Norton 360 helps protect your computer from viruses, hackers, and privacy threats. To run Norton 360, click  (Start), **All Programs**, **Norton 360**, then click **Norton 360**.


Your computer came with virus, spyware, firewall, and phishing protection turned on. Keep virus definitions current to ensure up-to-date protection.

You need to extend your subscription to update Norton 360 after the complimentary trial period ends.



BigFix

Your computer may include BigFix. BigFix monitors your computer for problems and conflicts. It automatically gathers information about the latest bugs, security alerts, and updates from BigFix sites on the Internet. Whenever BigFix detects a problem, it alerts you by flashing the blue taskbar icon (■). To fix the problem, click that icon and BigFix will open.



The screenshot shows a Windows taskbar with a flashing blue BigFix icon. A red arrow points to this icon with the text: "Click here, then click **Tutorial** to learn more about BigFix". Below the taskbar, the BigFix update window is open. A red arrow points to the 'Help' button in the top-left corner of the window with the text: "Click here for information about updates specific to your computer". Another red arrow points to the 'Details' link in the update notification area with the text: "Details and information about updates are provided here". The update notification itself says: "UPDATE: Away Mode Software Update Available For Your Computer". It includes a description of the update, the date (May 2005), and a download size (11.1 MB). A 'Download' button is visible at the bottom of the notification.

Click here, then click **Tutorial** to learn more about BigFix

Click here for information about updates specific to your computer

Click here to go directly to the Gateway Web support site

Details and information about updates are provided here

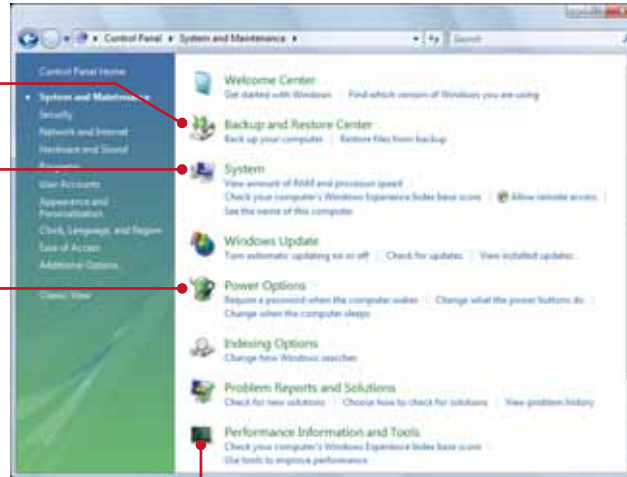
improving performance

Keep your computer in top running condition with regular maintenance. Click **@ (Start)**, **Control Panel**, **System and Maintenance**, then click **Performance Information and Tools**. Select a task and follow the instructions. Do this regularly and you'll have a smoother running system.

Click here to return your computer to a previous state when it was working better

Click here to see details about the components of your system

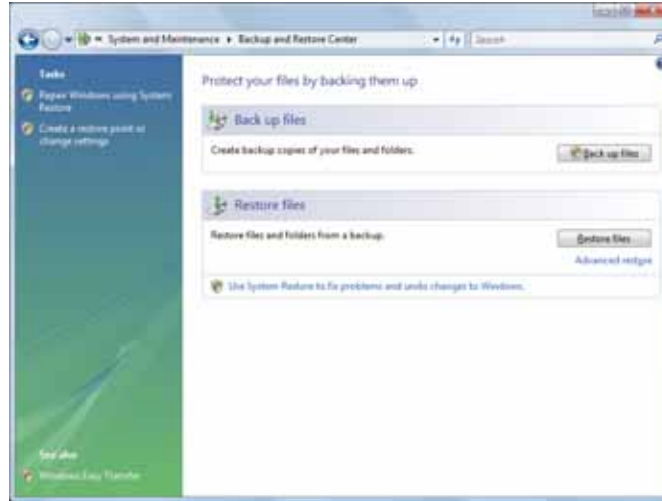
Click here to adjust how quickly your computer goes into power-saving modes



Click here to do maintenance, such as Disk Cleanup, or to defragment your hard drive (click **Advanced Tools**, then click **Open Disk Defragmenter**)

backing up a bit – restoring your computer

In the unlikely event that you experience software problems, the Windows Vista Backup and Restore Center lets you roll back your computer to a previous state when everything worked right. Windows Vista takes regular snapshots of your system, called *Restore Points*. You can return to one of these Restore Points to get your computer running again. To take advantage of the restore features in Windows, click **(Start), Control Panel, System and Maintenance**, then click **Backup and Restore Center**.



prepare to recover

When you first get your computer, it is a good idea to make a backup of the software that came with your system. Before you create these “recovery discs,” make sure that you have blank discs ready.

To create discs, click **® (Start), All Programs, Gateway**, then click **Gateway Recovery Management**. To create recovery discs for your factory-loaded hard drive contents (Windows Vista, pre-installed software and drivers), click **Create factory default disc** or, to create recovery discs for only the factory-loaded drivers and software, click **Create driver and application backup disc**. Follow the on-screen instructions to finish.



restoring to factory condition

If you can run Windows...

- 1 Click **Ⓜ (Start), All Programs, Gateway**, then click **Gateway Recovery Management**. *Gateway Recovery Management* opens.
- 2 Click the **Restore** tab, then click **Restore system to factory default**. The *Confirm Restoration* dialog box opens.



- 3 Follow the on-screen instructions to finish.

If you cannot run Windows...

- 1 Restart your computer, then press the **ALT+F10** keys during startup.
- 2 Follow the on-screen instructions to finish.

IMPORTANT

- If your hard drive has failed and you can't restore the software from the hard drive or recovery discs, contact Gateway Customer Care for help.
- After you restore your computer, it will appear with the same files and programs it had when it shipped from the factory. You still need to download Windows updates and antivirus updates to bring your computer's software up to date.



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