FREE GUIDE · MIKE STRASSBURG IT SERVICES & SUPPORT

Speed Up a Slow PC

Simple steps anyone can do in about 15 minutes. No tech skills needed. Works on Windows 10 and 11.

START HERE **Restart it first.** It sounds too simple, but a restart fixes more slowdowns than anything else. Many PCs go weeks without one.

THE 8-STEP TUNE-UP

1 Restart your computer

Choose Restart, not Shut down. Restart fully clears out the memory. Do this once a week.

Start › Power › Restart

2 Install updates

Updates fix bugs that slow things down. Install them, then restart.

Settings › Windows Update › Check for updates

3 Stop apps from opening at startup

Many apps start themselves and slow everything down. Right-click the ones you don't need and pick Disable. Leave antivirus alone.

Ctrl + Shift + Esc › Startup apps

4 Free up storage space

A full drive makes a PC crawl. Remove temporary files and turn on Storage Sense to clean up automatically.

Settings › System › Storage

5 Remove apps you don't use

Old programs, games and trial software take up space and run in the background.

Settings › Apps › Installed apps

6 Close extra browser tabs

Every open tab uses memory. Close what you're not using, and remove browser add-ons you don't recognize.

7 Run a virus scan

Hidden junk can slow a PC down. The free Windows Security is all most people need.

Windows Security › Virus & threat protection › Quick scan

8 Choose Best performance

On laptops, the power setting can hold the PC back. Pick Best performance when plugged in.

Settings › System › Power › Power mode

SKIP THESE

- **Other "PC cleaner" or "booster" programs.** Most do nothing or make things worse. Use Microsoft's free one below.
- **Pop-ups saying your PC is infected.** These are scams. Close the browser and don't call the number.
- **Running two antivirus programs.** They fight each other and slow you down. One is enough.
- **Deleting files you don't recognize** in Windows folders. You could break something.

MY PICK **Microsoft PC Manager**

A free app made by Microsoft. One click to boost speed, clean out junk files, manage startup apps and cut down on pop-ups.

Microsoft Store › Search "PC Manager" › Get

TIME FOR AN UPGRADE?

- **Still slow** after all 8 steps
- **Takes more than 2 minutes** to start up
- **Less than 8 GB of memory.** Check in Task Manager › Performance › Memory
- **An old hard drive (HDD).** Check in Task Manager › Performance › Disk

Good news: swapping an old hard drive for a solid-state drive (SSD) can make an older PC feel brand new, for far less than a new computer.

Need help?

Still slow? I can tune it up or upgrade it, on-site or remotely.

CALL 218-431-1739

EMAIL mike@strassburgit.com