Of Interest to Teachers

Getting Computers Ready for Y2K

Will your school's computers crash on January 1, 2000? Here are some sites on the World Wide Web and several programs that will help you diagnose and fix problems with your PC (Macintosh computers are all Y2K compliant!).

Dell's Year 2000 Web pages: http://www.dell.com/year2000. This site links to the National Standards Testing Laboratories' (NSTL) "YMARK2000," a free program that when downloaded tests the BIOS and real-time clock (RTC) in your computer. Dell offers a free BIOS upgrade, a free software fix for a computer whose BIOS can't be upgraded, and a free test of 17 "extended dates" after January 1 when more glitches could occur.

Gateway's Year 2000 Web site: http://www.gateway.com/about/y2k. Step-by-step details on how to manually reset your computer's clock after the new year.

IBM Year 2000 Evaluation Tool

(downloadable free from its Web site): http://www.pc.ibm.com/year2000. Provides help with five problematic areas.

PC **Magazine's Web site:** http://www.zdnet.com/pcmag/special/y2k.

Offers a wealth of guidance and a free compliance test.

Microsoft's Year 2000 Disclosure and Resource Center: http://www.microsoft.com/technet/year2k. Troubleshoots software.

Commercial products: *Greenwich Mean Time's Check 2000 PC 3.1* ($18.95): Seven date BIOS checks, a BIOS fix, operating system date-setting clock, application file scan, test date dependency information.

IntelliFIX 2000 ($29): Fixes BIOS problem, real-time clock, and bugs in your operating system and software. It will install a memory-resident fix to fool the computer into behaving properly. ✐

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