

Erase Web travels & more

Clean out your Web history, Windows' temporary files and cookies, file fragments and uninstall old programs for you.

CCleaner lets you specify exactly what types of items it can delete. You can also choose to analyze your disk first. Then you can preview everything that CCleaner plans to delete. It automatically makes backups if it cleans your Registry. **Cost:** Free

Link: piriform.com/ccleaner

(free version download link is below the "Premium Support" paid link)

System: XP, Vista, 7



Edit PDF files without expensive equipment

Use Document Conversion. You can upload an image or PDF file. It works with a variety of file formats; files can be up to 20 megabytes in size.

The service converts the images to editable text.

You can choose the output file format. The resulting file can be downloaded or emailed.

The service is free to use. Be sure to double-check the results. There will likely be some mistakes in the text. It depends on the image quality and font of the original file.

Cost: Free

Link: beta.rii.rioh.com

System: XP, Vista, 7, OS X

Thousands of free online games

kongregate.com

Armorgames.com

Recommended by Kim Komando

fre:ac is a free program that will help you convert your music between various formats.

Or rip music from CDs. It even logs onto a database to download track names.

This is a program that any music lover should have.

Unfortunately, it won't work with copy-protected music that you purchased.

Cost: Free

Systems: Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7

Free c.org



Freebies for photo buffs

[IrFanView](#) - Do you need to resize your images before emailing them or posting them to the Web? Need to convert one file format to another? If so, you'll dig this free, easy-to-use program.

Try GIMP. It's a free image-editing program. And it has an impressive set of tools. It can handle nearly any editing task.

Like Photoshop, GIMP is complex. It has a steep learning curve. In fact, it may be too much for a beginner. But if you've found other programs lacking, this is what you want.

Cost: Free

Link: www.gimp.org

System: Windows XP, Vista and 7, Mac OS X

Edit RAW

- You can get a free, full-featured RAW editor. RawTherapee has the same features you'll find in pricey programs. It is a must for those serious about photography!
- Keep in mind that RAW formats vary among manufacturers. Also, different models can have different formats.
- RawTherapee works with a wide range of cameras. But check to make sure it supports your camera's files before downloading. And, if you like the software, consider a donation.
- **Cost:** Free

Link: www.rawtherapee.com

System: Windows

Adobe has a standardized format called DNG, or digital negative.

Some camera manufacturers have adopted it as well but it has a ways to go before it is universally used.

Until then, Adobe provides the DNG Converter. It can convert most RAW files into the DNG format. Most, if not all, RAW image editors support the DNG format. So, if your RAW files aren't supported by your software, this converter can be a real lifesaver!

Cost: Free

Link: www.adobe.com

System: XP, Vista, 7

Retrieve EXIF data from photos

- Exif data can tell you where, when and what type of camera you used.

JPEGSnoop is a program that's designed to reveal EXIF data in JPEGs. Just open the JPEG in JPEGSnoop and you'll see a long list of information. It details pretty much everything about the photo. Before you share a digital photo, run it through JPEGSnoop. That way, you can be sure you're not sharing too much.

Cost: Free

Link: sourceforge.net

System: Windows XP, Vista, 7

Picasa

- Free photo editor

This is organizing software that helps you instantly find, edit and share all the pictures on your PC. Every time you open this program, it automatically locates all your pictures and sorts them into visual albums organized by date. It's fast and great.

Picasa.google.com Free

Get going with HDR photography

Luminance HDR also enables you to tonemap, rotate, resize, save and load HDR images. And it supports multiple HDR and LDR file formats.

Lets you create Dynamic Range in photos

Cost: Free

Link: qtpfsgui.sourceforge.net

Dive into tilt-shift photography

- Tilt-shift effects are some of the coolest. They can make objects seem less lifelike.

A real cityscape can look like miniature model.

TiltShift Generator takes all the complication out of the process. The only thing this program does is the tilt-shift effect. Just upload your photos and play with the settings. Experiment with it until you get the results you want

Look for the Installation heading on the Web page.

Cost: Free

Link:

labs.artandmobile.com/tiltshift

System: Windows XP and Vista,
Mac OS X

View your photos anywhere

• You probably use multiple computers. You also use an iPad and iPhone. That makes it difficult to keep your files in sync.

Your photos certainly belong in this category. You probably have a library of hundreds or thousands of photos. Wouldn't it be great to access them from anywhere?

Cinq can make your dream of a unified photo library a reality. It lets you access your photo library on your home computer from anywhere. You can see all of your pictures right on your iOS device.

Continued..

- The coolest feature of Cinq is wireless syncing.

Take a bunch of pictures with your iPhone and they are instantly sent to your photo library at home.

You'll never lose a picture again!

Cost: Free

Link: cinq.tunaverse.com

System: Windows XP, Vista, 7, Mac OS X

Windows Memory Diagnostic

The Windows Memory Diagnostic tests the Random Access Memory (RAM) on your computer for errors. The diagnostic includes a comprehensive set of memory tests. If you are experiencing problems while running Windows, you can use the diagnostic to determine whether the problems are caused by failing hardware, such as RAM or the memory system of your motherboard. Windows Memory Diagnostic is designed to be easy and fast. On most configurations, you can download the diagnostic, read the documentation, run the test and complete the first test pass in less than 30 minutes.

To run Windows Memory Diagnostic, you must reboot your computer with the disk or CD-ROM on which you installed Windows Memory Diagnostic in the drive. After the reboot, Windows Memory Diagnostic will load and its interface will appear. After loading, the first test pass will begin, using the default standard test suite, and continue until complete, unless Windows Memory Diagnostic is either paused or exited. Once the first test pass is complete, Windows Memory Diagnostic will begin a second test pass using the same settings as before. Windows Memory Diagnostic will continue to run test passes until you exit.

Find details on our website under Hints and Tips

