

Chapter 28

Ten Big Network Mistakes

Just about the time you figure out how to avoid the most embarrassing computer mistakes (such as using your CD drive's tray as a cup holder), the network lands on your computer. Now you have a whole new list of dumb things you can do, mistakes that can give your average computer geek a belly laugh because they seem so basic to him. Well, that's because he's a computer geek. Nobody had to tell *him* not to fold the floppy disk — he was born with an extra gene that gave him an instinctive knowledge of such things.

Here's a list of some of the most common mistakes made by network novices. Avoid these mistakes and you deprive your local computer geek of the pleasure of a good laugh at your expense.

Skimping on Hardware

Good computer equipment is not cheap. You can walk into your local electronics store and buy everything you need to set up a cheap network: cables, switches, and computers to use as servers. But you get what you pay for. Professional-grade equipment costs much more, and in a business environment, it's worth it.