

## Norton SystemWorks 2000

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Received December 1, 1999

Symantec's Norton SystemWorks 2000, version 3.0, is the latest version of the very popular and even more useful collection of utility programs for Windows 95/98. This latest version has a number of improvements, including an automatic checker for viruses that may come as attachments to e-mail messages.

The software comes on a CD-ROM and is easy to install. It removes earlier versions of any Norton products. The software requires up to 130 MB of space, depending on exactly what options you choose. While you do not have to choose all of the components that make up SystemWorks 2000, it seems silly not to do so. The components included are as follows: Norton Utilities 4.5, Norton AntiVirus 5.4, Norton CleanSweep 4.7, Norton Web Services 1.0, Norton Crashguard 4.0, and Norton 2000 2.0.

The installations went smoothly and took only two reboots of my computers (a 200 MHz Dell and a 366 MHz e-machine) to get the whole package up and running. I installed the professional edition, which includes Norton Ghost 2000 and Norton 2000.

The Norton Utilities is a must for any PC. It helps prevent problems and does an excellent job fixing things. It also helps to optimize your computer system. This version of Norton Utilities is mostly an incremental improvement over the previous version (3.0). For reasons I do not understand, it seems to "like" my Dell computer better than the previous version. I had a lot less trouble in rebooting my computer with this new version than with the older version. The older version occasionally would not run Disk Doctor when the machine was first rebooted without a lot of twiddling and fiddling.

The Norton Anti-Virus program, coupled with the LiveUpdate facility really protects your computer from real and potential damage. In this new version I found the status report to be a very nice improvement. It is also much easier to schedule virus checking scans than in the previous version.

The Norton CleanSweep program helps to remove extraneous programs and files. While it works well, I still find things scattered here and there on my hard disk using the orphan finder module of this program.

Norton CrashGuard helps to keep a program running after a problem arises during the use of the program. In the numerous times I have used it the program has performed

well, and fatal program crashes have been reduced for the program I usually run (browsers, word processing, and communications).

With this version of the Norton package is a new feature called LiveUpdate Pro. LiveUpdate Pro finds all the software and hardware installed on your computer and then checks your needs against Symantec's database containing thousands of updates (patches, drivers, and application add-ons). LiveUpdate Pro locates—and installs—hardware drivers and software updates specific to your system. I ran it and tried a few patches and updates and found it worked well in about 50% of the cases. In one case, I wanted to update Adobe Acrobat Reader from version 3 to version 4. After waiting a while for the 6+ MB download to finish, I was informed by the Norton software I would have to first remove version 3 from my machine (which I did). When it then went to install version 4, the whole thing blew up and I wound up with neither version 3 or version 4 of Acrobat reader installed on my system. I then went directly to the Adobe web site and downloaded the 6+ MB file, which installed without a hitch.

Another new feature in this package is Norton Ghost, which I did not try to use. Ghost is designed to make moving from one PC to another very easy. Ghost makes an exact duplicate of your disk system, including all configuration files and the Windows Registry. You can then copy this to the hard drive of your new computer and start running it without having to reinstall all your software and reboot your system time and time again.

Lastly, Norton 2000 is also included with the package. This is aY2K checking and problem solving program which has been reviewed in a recent issue of this journal.

In summary I would say this package is very well designed and integrated and very easy to use. I found it much easier to use than the previous individual packages and feel the Symantec staff should be pleased that they have produced a very useful and even more easy set of programs which should be on everyone's PC.

Norton SystemWorks 2000 is available for \$59.95 (Standard edition) and \$99.95 for the professional edition. Upgrades are also available from older versions of these Norton products. The products can be purchased online at [www.symantec.com](http://www.symantec.com).

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