COMP-514 Assignment-5

Computers are big investments. Like any expense, it makes sense to get the most use out of our computer. Keeping our hardware humming for a few more years will mean good things for our finances and our sanity. Here are six ideas to help the computer stay healthy and last longer.

## **1. Keep it Covered and Clean**

Dust and dirt are the worst nightmare. One of the best ways to keep the computer running over the long term is to keep it clean. Dust and pet hair can gum up the gears and cause issues in functioning.

## 2. Keep it Cool

Heat also causes many issues. The CPU and graphics card can get so hot, they can cook. The computer generates heat when it’s running. When it combine that with ambient room temperature, the computer works harder and slows down. Try to put the computer in a clean room that stays cool and out of the sun. Provide proper air flow and don’t place anything in front of the fans on the PC.

## 3. Keep it Current

While window updates may seem like a pain when trying to get work done, they are necessary maintenance for the system.

## **4. Don’t Jostle It**

While the computer is running, it’s a good idea not to move it. If it is a laptop, remember not to jostle or move it more than needed. Be gentle. Too much movement can damage the moving pieces and cause issue later.

## 5. Surge Protector

Make sure to protect the computer with a surge protector to prevent frying the hard drive. Also, during storms, unplug the computer as an additional precaution.

## 6. Make Sure to Have Enough RAM and Hard Drive Space

The RAM (random access memory used for active programs) and the hard drive (used for things to store like videos, documents, and pictures) should be at the right levels to meet your needs. If someone got a good deal on a computer, it’s likely they gave the bare minimum of memory and hard drive space. It can upgrade memory fairly easily, and the computer will run faster and last longer.