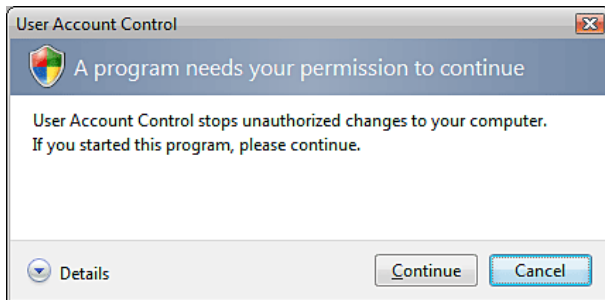


## Windows tweaks (Use at your own risk)

Windows Vista Tip: Disable "Need your permission to continue-" prompts

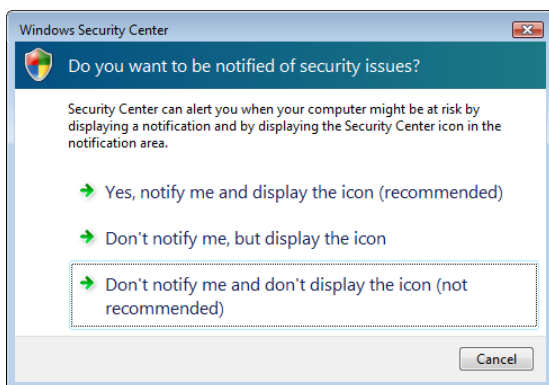


Windows Vista's User Account Control security feature – which seems to pop up each time you try to do something you really are sure you want to – can be disabled.

Open up Control Panel, and type in user account into the search box. Locate the link for "Turn User Account Control (UAC) on or off". Click it. Uncheck the box, and reboot your computer.

The task bar will now display the following icon . You may also turn off the security alert icon.

In Control Panel, go to the Security Center. On the left hand side, click the "Change the way Security Center alerts me" and choose "Don't notify me and don't display the icon (not recommended)" as shown.



## Sidebar

You pay a heavy performance price for the analog clock, thumbnail slide-show viewer, etc. Turning this off gives you a big speed boost, especially at boot time.

To remove: right-click the Sidebar and select Close Sidebar. Uncheck Start Sidebar when Windows starts, and then click OK.

## Aero

Among those features are the thumbnails of your windows that appear when you hover the mouse pointer over the taskbar, as well as the Flip 3D view you get by pressing Windows-Tab. While Aero adds a some functionality, if your PC is underpowered or overloaded, Aero may be more trouble than it's worth.

To turn it off, right-click the Windows desktop and select Personalize and choose Window Color and Appearance. In the resulting "Window Color and Appearance" dialog box, click Open classic appearance properties for more color options. Select Windows Vista Basic and click OK.

## Assorted Interface Beautification Options

You can save some additional clock cycles by turning off all or some of Vista's interface options, some are not related to Aero.

To see the options, click Start, right-click Computer, and select Properties. Click the Advanced System Properties link, the Advanced tab, and then the Settings button inside the Performance box.

You can uncheck the items you don't care for, or uncheck all of the listed options by selecting Adjust for best performance. Recommended targets: Fade or slide menus into view, Fade or slide ToolTips into view, Show shadows under menus, and Slide open combo boxes. The rest may be left on.

### **Remote Assistance**

For Vista Business or Ultimate only--a useful tool if you regularly provide tech support for at a distance, but for most Remote Assistance is a waste of resources.

To get rid of it, click Start, right-click Computer, and select Properties. Click Remote Settings. Uncheck Allow Remote Assistance connections to this computer.

### **Internet Printing Client**

Unless you print documents over the Internet, disable Vista's Internet Printing Client.

Open the "Programs and Features" control panel and click the "Turn Windows features on or off" link; you'll get the Windows Features dialog box. Expand the Print Services section and uncheck Internet Printing Client.

### **Windows Meeting Space**

To remove: Open the "Programs and Features" control panel and click the "Turn Windows features on or off" link; you'll get the Windows Features dialog box. Uncheck Windows Meeting Space

### **Windows Ultimate Extras**

If you own Ultimate, go to Windows Update (Start, All Programs, Windows Update), click View available updates, and check out all the unneeded items.

You can turn Windows Ultimate Extras off in the Windows Features control panel by clicking "Turn Windows features on or off" to open the Windows Features dialog box, and then uncheck Windows Ultimate Extras.

### **Tablet PC Items**

If you don't have a tablet, turn off Tablet items.

To remove: Open the "Programs and Features" control panel and click the "Turn Windows features on or off" link; you'll get the Windows Features dialog box. Uncheck Tablet PC Optional Components.

Go to the Services window: Find and double-click Tablet PC Input Services. In the "Startup type" drop-down menu, select Disabled, and then click OK.

### **ReadyBoost**

Go to the Services window: Find and double-click ReadyBoost. In the "Startup type" drop-down menu, select Disabled, and then click OK.

### **Search Indexing**

If you use a third party search, such as Google Desktop, turn off indexing.

Go to the Services window: Find and double-click "Startup type" drop-down menu, select Disabled, and then click OK.

### **Offline Files**

If you don't need Offline Files

Go to the Services window: Find and double-click Offline Files. In the "Startup type" drop-down menu, select Disabled, and then click OK.

### **Windows Error Reporting Service**

To disable this service

Go to the Services window: Find and double-click Windows Error Reporting Service. In the "Startup type" drop-down menu, select Disabled, and then click OK.