

# Is Windows 2000 right for you?

By Ed Bott, ZD Net

Microsoft has launched a major new Windows version on 17 February, and the hype out of Redmond -- and reaction from the media -- barely reached a whisper. What's going on here? Is this really the operating system that Bill Gates is betting the company on? Absolutely.

Despite the name, Windows 2000 is not the successor to Windows 98. In fact, if you look closely enough at a PC running Windows 2000, you'll find traces of the new operating system's real name: Windows NT 5.0. With a slew of advanced security features and the new Active Directory, it's right at home on business networks. But it also supports DirectX7, which makes it a killer platform for Quake and other decidedly un-businesslike applications.

## What is 2000?

Windows 2000 offers more options than might meet the eye. There's a separate edition for different types of users: Professional, Server, Advanced Server, DataCenter Server etc.

**Professional Edition:** This upgrade to NT Workstation is Microsoft's workhorse OS for business desktops and notebooks. It has a huge appetite for hardware, but is more secure and reliable than any previous Windows version. \$319 new; \$149 upgrade from NT Workstation; \$219 to upgrade from Windows 98 or 95.

**Server Edition:** Basic file and print sharing, with an award-winning Web server tossed in for good measure. Ideal for small businesses and departments. Can scale up to use as many as four CPUs in a single machine. \$999; \$499 upgrade from NT Server; includes 5 client access licenses (CALs); \$899 upgrade includes 25 CALs.

**Advanced Server:** Server on steroids, for large networks and commerce applications. By using multiple servers (up to 8 CPUs each), you can keep the network chugging along even when one server crashes. \$3,999; \$3,599 upgrade from NT Server or \$1,999 upgrade from NT Server 4.0, Enterprise Edition; inc. 25 CALs.

**DataCenter Server:** Microsoft's ambitious attempt to build a mainframe killer -- a massive OS designed to run mission-critical business applications like airline reservation systems. Due mid-year. You probably can't afford it.

## The upside to upgrading

If you upgrade to Windows 2000, you'll have plenty to smile about. The improvements are profound and immediately noticeable, especially if you're moving up from Windows 95 or 98.

For starters, Windows 2000 is practically crash-proof. Really. If you've grown accustomed to rebooting your PC every few hours, whether you need to or not, you'll probably be shocked by smooth operation measured in weeks or months. Thanks to memory protection, ill-behaved programs can't lock up the rest of your system, and the dreaded Blue Screen of Death -- a system crash usually caused by a poorly written hardware driver -- is practically endangered species.

If your PC is reasonably up to date, setting up Windows 2000 is ridiculously easy. A clean install takes an hour or less (upgrading from Windows 95 or 98 takes longer because of the extensive compatibility checks the Setup program runs). If you're responsible for an office full of PCs, you'll find everyday administrative

tasks easier as well.

This operating system is also dramatically more hacker-proof than previous Windows versions.

Unlike Windows NT, Windows 2000 supports the fast-growing list of devices that connect to your PC via Universal Serial Bus (USB) or a FireWire port.

Have previous Windows versions led you straight to DLL Hell? A new feature called Windows File Protection watches, hawk-like, over crucial system files. If a Setup program replaces one of these files with an outdated or unauthorized version, Windows 2000 silently restores the correct file. The result -- at least in theory -- is a more stable system.

## Cons

Despite its undeniable improvements, Windows 2000 is far from perfect. Microsoft won't warn you about its rough edges and gotchas, but we will. Here's what to watch out for:

**Your hardware might not work:** Do you have a Creative Labs DVD player? Good luck getting it to play movies under Windows 2000. Have you backed up crucial data files using an OnStream tape backup drive from Windows 98 or NT4? Sorry, your data is not available under Windows 2000. After upgrading, you may discover that your high-end sound card is using generic drivers, effectively disabling the advanced features you paid a premium for. Of course, a steady stream of new and updated hardware drivers will trickle out over the next few months, but don't be surprised if older devices never work properly with Windows 2000.

**Your software might not work:** How many system utilities do you own? You'll need updated versions of the Norton Utilities and Partition Magic to handle Windows 2000's new disk formats. You'll almost certainly need to update your antivirus software. Older versions of some programs, such as Adaptec's Easy CD Creator, will require patches before they work properly. And all bets are off when it comes to custom applications -- the only way to tell whether your custom program will work is to test it yourself.

## The bottom line

Despite some rough edges and unfinished pieces (most notably the Active Directory), Windows 2000 is for real. It's far from perfect, but its combination of usability and stability is a vast improvement over any previous Windows version. Its compatibility with the huge base of available Windows applications makes it a likely winner among corporations. That's the real target customer for Windows 2000.

For the vast consumer market, however, this year's choice is between two unsatisfying and frustrating alternatives. Windows 98 is cheap and popular but notoriously crash-prone. Windows 2000 is reliable and secure, but it's far too expensive and complex for all but the most technically astute consumers.

Windows 2000 represents the future of Windows, and it proves that Microsoft can produce an excellent operating system. The company's next challenge is to build on that foundation, stripping away the complexity and the cost to produce a consumer version. Mainstream users thinking about an upgrade should keep waiting.



# MORE SERIALS

By Monzur Morshed

I read my friend Mike Adnan's article about Serial Numbers. It was good but the problem is those weren't the serials for the latest versions, he also missed some very cool softs. So I made up my mind to write another article about it. So, here are the serials of latest softs which I think are the best.

**ACDsee 3- Code :** 138322023575591441  
**Adobe Photoshop 5.5- s/n:** PW500X7205050-732  
**Autocad 2000- s/n:** 112-11111111 CD-Key: 5X8NUG  
**Getright 4- Code :** 687004515641, 441827962897  
**Macromedia Dreamweaver 2.1- s/n :** Drw700-21771-30388-40404  
**Macromedia Flash 4- s/n :** FLW400-16664-27865-12345  
**Mirc 5.71- Name:** Monzur Morshed, Code : 12568-1281102  
**Mp3 to Exe- name:** BLACK PARANOIA s/n: MP3-

**EnjoyTheMusic99 r/c:** 85CF98F654B84061  
**Quicktime 4- Name:** Monzur Morshed Code: FC31-3C68-87A2-A02C-1FFE  
**Real Audio Producer G2 32bit- Code:** 212-08806-1648  
**Webzip 3.07- Name:** Monzur Morshed, Serial: CORE-F13C64AE Reg Key: DDC6A8D0681Y  
**Winamp Skin Maker 1.2- Name:** Monzur Morshed, Code-6850785  
**Softwares for Serial Number:** Various software were made by the crackers (CORE, PHROZEN CREW, EVC etc.) to provide you with thousands of serial numbers. You can obtain them from the net.  
\* OSCAR 98  
\* OSCAR 2000 (The Best)  
\* Serials 2000  
\* Serials Cracks  
\* Ultimate Serials (This one by me!!!)

## Make your own Web-site

New Internet users may be asking questions whether they can build a web-page for free. Yes, you can make your own web-page taking advantage of free web-site run by various companies. Use these webing internet addresses:  
[www.hello.to](http://www.hello.to)  
[www.motivpages.com](http://www.motivpages.com)  
[www.acmecity.com](http://www.acmecity.com)

- [www.4mg.com](http://www.4mg.com)
  - [www.8m.com](http://www.8m.com)
  - [www.freewebsites.com](http://www.freewebsites.com)
  - [www.freewebsite.com](http://www.freewebsite.com)
- You may wonder why these sites let you build pages for free. It is because they later put advertisement banners in your web-pages. And they get paid by the advertisers.

By Tasneem Raihan

## PC GAME CHEATS

**Robocop 3:** During a driving/flight scene type NEMYDIDEHT. Now you are invincible for this scene and if you do not succeed, you can still go on.

**Wing Commander IV:** To enable the cheats, run Wing Commander IV with -chicken parameter in the command line. Then, during the game: CTRL-W-Destroys targeted ship. ALT-CTRL-W-Destroys all enemies

**Interstate '76:** To 'win' the level in trip missions hold down Ctrl and Shift while typing "getdown". All the cars will attack you. After you die you will start on the next level.

By Monzur Morshed

Cartoons are like fantasies. Cartoon characters never age and never die. They all have their own individual quirks, an innate sense of humour and a particular brand of eccentricity. What's more, cartoon characters carry a licence that permits them to do anything and everything and get away with it. From the early 1900's to the coming end of the millennium, Disney has proved again and again that when it comes to cartoons, there's no one to beat them. Mickey Mouse was the cute, energetic simpleton who made every household name. He did what no one else had done before. He acted out our fantasies and was the perfect picture of a blushing noble hero.

Walt Disney once said, "Sometimes I've tried to figure out why Mickey appealed to the whole world. Everybody's tried to figure it out. So far as I know, nobody has. He's a pretty nice fellow who never does anybody any harm, who gets into scrapes through no fault of his own, but always manages to come up grinning."

It is a known fact that for twenty years Disney did Mickey's voice. Many people it seemed, that Disney was living his dreams through the timeless character he created, Mickey Mouse. Using the technology of film animation, Walt Disney built an empire from scratch; an empire built from the network of Mickey Mouse, the icon. Disney, however, has moved on to other pastures. It captured the attention of the world again (if ever leaving lost it in the first place) with the making of animated movies on subjects ranging from fairy tales to true stories.

With Cinderella, Pocahontas, 101 Dalmatians, Aladdin, and more recently Doug's No.1 Movie, its credit, Disney is undoubtedly the unequivocally reigning the animation industry. Fairy tales are timeless masterpieces enjoyed by young and old. But as Disney showed us, there is a

world of difference between reading Cinderella and watching the animated version of Cinderella

Following Disney's lead, Fox Television released Anastasia, a story about a Russian orphan who suddenly discovers that she is the heir to the throne, the long-lost Princess of Russia.

Disney's joint venture with Pixar, a brilliant upcoming animation production house, has enabled us to enjoy such milestones in animation history as Toy Story and A Bug's Life. Both the aforementioned animations were computer imagery.

Anyone who has seen The Prince of Egypt has surely marvelled at the scene where Moses splits up the Nile to create a path. It is but one of the many examples of computer graphics.

Animated movies are in a genre of their own. Apart from having colourful landscapes and beautifully drawn characters, the music of such pictures is simply superb. Who can forget the mystical soundtrack of Pocahontas 'Colours of the Wind' sung by Vanessa Williams or the soundtrack of The Prince of Egypt which had been done by Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey.

The added attractions of animated movies is the fact that voices of the leading characters are that of celebrities. The Prince of Egypt boasts the voices of

Michelle Pfeiffer, Val Kilmer, Sandra Bullock and Ralph Fiennes. Mel Gibson lent his voice for 'Pocahontas'

A bug's life and Rugrats have been number one in both the U.S. and U.K. charts during the end of 1998 and the beginning of 1999.

While cartoons were sweeping over the world and winning accolades, Bangladesh saw the birth of 'Meena', the brain child of UNICEF which would serve its purpose of social service. Finally, we had our very own cartoon character. Kudos to UNICEF for that.

With the rising popularity of animation, a channel dedicated to cartoons has been launched not so long ago. Cartoon Network caters to the appetite of millions of cartoon-lovers who tune in to its programmes every day.

With a wide selection of cartoons, there's something to suit everyone's taste. From the antics of the egotistical Johnny Bravo to the adventures of the science fiction cartoon, Extreme Ghostbusters, each and every cartoon is unique and more importantly, fun.

With a fan following of gigantic proportions, one can only guess about the future of film animation. But it sure does promise to be a roller coaster ride of fun, fun and more fun.

