

RPM Tips & Tricks: ***Windows Vista and AuctionRPM***

Windows Vista is the latest offering by Microsoft Corporation. Vista works well with AuctionRPM so long as a few guidelines are followed. This document will outline those guidelines.

1. In a network situation, it is advisable to use an XP machine as the keeper of the RPM database (the 'Main' computer). Several customers have tried Vista as the Main computer and found that they could successfully connect only one satellite computer. With any additional satellite, RPM would not start completely until the first RPM program was ended.

This may be the result of using Vista Home edition as opposed to the Business edition. Vista, with its enhanced security features, may absolutely limit the number of concurrently-networked computers whereas XP did not have a strict limit. However, if an XP computer is used as the Main RPM database holder, Vista satellite machines work with no problems.

2. Assure that all Vista computer(s) are updated to the latest Microsoft update. Early on, Vista had many flaws and bugs. Purchase of a new Vista machine does not automatically assure that the early-on bugs have been corrected. Only downloaded-from-Microsoft updates can assure that the computer has been brought up to current state of the art.

Please turn on Microsoft Automatic Updates and allow the computer to update on its own. There may be multiple updates to be installed, so do not assume that a single update is all that is required. You may visit www.microsoft.com and use the 'Windows Update' screens to verify that your computer is up-to-date.

3. Turn off Vista's UAC (User Account Control). Otherwise, each and every time a change is made by RPM Customer Support, the screen blanks out for the RPM technician, and you (the customer) must authorize every change, even a simple 'yes'-click by the RPM tech.

Go to 'Control Panel - User Accounts - Turn User Account Control On or Off - Use User Account Control (UAC) to help protect your computer'. Uncheck the checkbox. Click 'OK'. A reboot of the computer is required to finalize this change.

4. Configure network access. Go to 'Start - Network - Network Sharing Center - Sharing and Discovery'. Click switches to reflect the following:
 - Network Discovery - ON
 - File Sharing - ON
 - Public Folder Sharing - ON
 - Printer Sharing - ON (only available if a printer exists in Windows)
 - Password Protected Sharing - OFF
 - Media Sharing - (your choice)

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5. Windows Firewall may be left ON. Simply assure that AuctionRPM is 'unblocked' (AA_Launch and AA_Main should exist in the Exceptions list, and should be checked as 'exceptions').