

# 10 tips to speed up Vista

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***Network administrators - Windows Vista has become more and more restrictive since its official release. Despite the integration of many new features, it always receives the "negligence" of users because of its ability to handle very slowly compared to other operating system versions.***



## Windows Vista™

All users are interested in an operating system with short start-up and shutdown times, and the ability to run applications quickly. Windows Vista has plenty of security and security options that interfere with the resources of running applications. Here are 10 methods you can apply to speed up your Vista system.

### 1. Turn off Visual Effects

Visual Effects are almost unnecessary when using Windows Vista, and they take up part of the memory that affects the performance of the system. To turn off Visual Effect, follow these steps:

1. Right-click the **My Computer** icon and select **Properties** .
2. Click the **Advanced System Settings link** in the left panel.
3. Click the **Settings** button in the **Performance** area.

4. In the **Visual Effect** area, uncheck all options except the following options:

1. **Desktop Composition** (if you want to use Windows Aero theme).
2. **Transparent Glass** (if you want to use transparent features in Windows).
3. **Show preview and filters in folder** (if you want to use Details Pane in Explorer).
4. **Show thumbnails instead of icons** (if you want to display thumbnails in Explorer).
5. **Show window contents while dragging** (if you want the window to display content when moving).
6. **Smooth edges of screen fonts** (if you want to display smooth fonts).
7. **Use shadow drop for icon labels on the desktop** (if you want to show shadow **for icon labels on the desktop**).
8. **Use visual styles on windows and buttons** (if you want to use Windows Aero or Basic theme).

## 2. Remove the sidebar

If you don't need the tools in the sidebar, then do the following:

1. Right-click the **Sidebar** icon in the system tray of the **Taskbar** and select **Exit** .
2. Open **Control Panel** , go to **Appearance and Personalization** and select **Windows Sidebar Properties** .
3. Remove the **Start Sidebar when Windows** checkbox (Run the sidebar when Windows starts) and click **OK** .

## 3. Turn off UAC

UAC (User Account Control) of Windows Vista can enhance the system's ability to secrecy, but it reduces the speed of the system because it often gives a message asking you to select either Allow or Deny every time you run an application. So if you don't need to use this feature, turn it off.

1. Go to **Control Panel | User Accounts and Family Safety | User Accounts** .
2. Click **Turn User Account Control on or off** , and when receiving the message click **Continue** .
3. You will then see a check box. Cancel the meeting option and click **OK** .

## 4. Check hardware causing system slowdown

To test hardware performance, please do the following:

1. Right-click the **My Computer** icon and select **Properties** .
2. Click on **Windows Experience Index** .

Then find the device with the lowest coefficient. It is possible that the device with the lowest index reduces the performance of the machine.

## 5. Use the Ready Boost option

This is a new feature incorporated in Windows Vista that helps to use a USB thumb drive as a cache to store frequently used data. This feature greatly increases processing speed.

1. First connect the USB drive to the device.
2. When a window appears, select the **ReadBoost** tab.
3. Then select **Use this device** .

## 6. Turn off Hibernation

If you disable this feature in Vista, you'll save at least 1GB on your hard drive. So if not used, please turn off this feature. Just go to the **Start** menu and enter the command *powercfg - H off* into the **Run** box and press **Enter** .

## 7. Turn off the Differential Compression

Basically **Remote Differential Compression** is responsible for bringing changes to the file on the network to transmit them with a smaller bandwidth that transmits all the previously moved files. This **Compression** service always checks for changes in the file.

To cancel this service, follow these steps:

1. Open **Control Panel** .
2. Switch to **Classic View** .
3. Select **Program Features** .
4. Choose **Turn Windows features on and off** .
5. Cancel the meeting selection and select **Remote Differential Compression** .

## 8. Remove Superfetch.

This is an additional feature in Vista that helps to use free memory to store frequently accessed data. If you regularly use your computer to play games or watch movies, it's best to turn it off.

1. **Go to Start** menu, enter *services.msc* in the **Run** box and press **Enter** .
2. Select **Stop / Disable SuperFetch** .
3. Then restart the computer.

## 9. Turn off Automatic Disk Defragmentation

Windows Vista turns on Defragmentation by default. This is unnecessary and can cause system slowdown. We usually defragment the drive after a certain amount of time, so if you haven't used it, it's best to turn off this tool.

1. Go to **My Computer** .
2. Right click on drive **C:**
3. Select the **Tools** tab.
4. Uncheck the box to select **Run on a schedule** .

## **10. Limit the number of programs that load at startup**

Unused programs often slow down the boot process of the system and take up system resources. To avoid repeating this phenomenon, you should remove some programs that do not need to be started when the system starts.

1. **Go to Start** menu and enter **msconfig** in the **Run** box.
2. Select the **Startup** tab.
3. Uncheck the box in front of the applications or services you do not want to start at system startup.
4. After canceling the selection of unnecessary applications click the **Apply** button then **OK** , and restart the system to save the settings.

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