SeniorPC solutions from HP and Microsoft

Enriching the lives and strengthening the independence of our aging population

Specially designed PC packages for seniors provide easy accessibility to communications, entertainment, and personal management tools designed expressly for the needs of older computer users.

The demographic structure of the population in Europe has been shifting dramatically over the past few decades and current predictions show that the trend towards an increasing population of the elderly is likely to continue. At the same time we have truly entered the digital age with ICT permeating every aspect of our lives, which often results in the seniors being left behind. Twelve percent of the US population is over 65 years of age. The first U.S. baby boomers (78 million) will reach 65 in 2011. In Europe, 20% of the population is over 60 today. In Japan, 20% of the population (25 million) is over 65 today.

Most people in their 50s and 60s begin to experience some level of vision, hearing, or dexterity impairment, which only worsens over time. Yet most seniors continue to live active and engaged lifestyles well into their elder years. So while their needs may be different, seniors can continue to enrich their lives in the digital age. All it takes is the right computer package – like the SeniorPC Offering from Microsoft. This was designed with an understanding of the accessibility issues facing older users, as well as the types of tools and applications most relevant to this growing segment of the population.

HP and Microsoft have long been committed to developing solutions that bring the benefits of technology to everyone. Now, with SeniorPC packages combining Microsoft technology with HP hardware, we extend this philosophy to make computing easy and rewarding for seniors – even if they have never used computers before.
Delivering the features that seniors need most
SeniorPC offerings from Microsoft feature HP computers that come equipped with user-friendly software specifically geared to senior living. Through close collaboration between Microsoft and HP, SeniorPC packages provide a simplified way to perform everyday tasks like e-mailing and word processing, as well as important life-enhancing activities such as managing prescriptions, finances, travel plans, and photos. They even provide word and number games designed to sharpen puzzle-solving skills and stimulate mental acuity.

Two SeniorPC packages are available based on the experience level of the user.

• The Standard Package is fully loaded with Microsoft Windows Vista® Home Premium* and comes with Microsoft Works Suite 8, games, prescription software, and more.

• The Autopilot Package includes all the features of the standard package, plus additional tools for seniors with little or no computer experience who want to use e-mail, the Internet, and create letters and files. Both packages offer the following capabilities specially designed for the needs of seniors:

  – Easy accessibility. Seniors can take advantage of the improved accessibility settings and programs in Microsoft Windows Vista that make it easier for them to see, hear, and use their computers. For example, state-of-the-art speech recognition empowers users to interact with their computers by voice and through enhanced magnification. Users can adjust a range of accessibility settings and manage assistive technology all in one, centralised location.

  – Simplified e-mailing, web browsing, and word processing. SeniorPCs come with an intuitive browser enabling e-mail and Internet access”, as well as Microsoft Works application for creating documents. For more experienced users, a standard web browser such as Internet Explorer also is available.

  – Memory games. Games such as Wordgo, a combination spelling game and crossword puzzle, and Classic Kakuro mathematical puzzles are included to not only entertain and help sharpen the mind but also help seniors quickly get comfortable with using their PCs.

  – Prescription management. Medication management software provides users with reminders of when and what medication to take and keeps a log that physicians and family members can use to monitor whether the medication is being taken at the proper time and dosage. This feature, in combination with the medical history data also included in the application, can play a crucial role in the event the individual needs emergency care and play a key role in helping seniors remain independent in their homes.

Assuring performance with proven HP technology
SeniorPCs are built on proven HP PC technology and are available in desktop or laptop configurations. Additional options for a larger keyboard or trackball mouse also are available to enable easier typing and mouse pointing. And each SeniorPC comes with an HP colour printer.

In some locations, each SeniorPC may come with training, system delivery and installation, customer support, and Internet connectivity.” Learn more about how SeniorPC packages from HP and Microsoft enable senior citizens to maintain independence longer and enrich their lives with communications, entertainment, and personal management tools designed expressly for the needs of older computer users.

*Certain Windows Vista product features require advanced or additional hardware. See www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/ getready/hardwarereqs.mspx and www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/getready/capable.mspx for details. Windows Vista Upgrade Advisor can help you determine which features of Windows Vista will run on your computer. To download the tool, visit www.windowsvista.com/upgradeadvisor.

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For more information about SeniorPC packages from HP and Microsoft visit:
http://www.hp.com/go/seniorpc
http://windowsmarketplace.com/seniorpc

4AA-16650EEW, December 2007