

Stupid Vista Search Tricks

Windows Vista has a much improved “search feature”. In the older versions of Windows you had to type the keyword, decide where you wanted to search, and then click SEARCH. And this only searched the filenames for the keyword you supplied.

Windows Vista has the SEARCH FIELD almost everywhere you look, in all folders, at the bottom of the START MENU, in the Media Player and I’m sure in places I haven’t even found yet. My favourite one is at the bottom of the START MENU.

Just click the START BUTTON (which doesn’t say START anymore, it’s simply the Windows Logo) and there at the bottom is the SEARCH FIELD. Start typing in any keyword. As you type, the search RESULTS start to appear dynamically. The results start appearing from the first letter that you type, as you type more of your keyword, more exacting results show up. It’s VERY fast, and no more do you have to finish typing the keyword, and click another button...it’s just automatic. (And fast!) The results will show you files, programs, favourites and even emails that have the same letter combinations you are typing.

I hardly ever use the programs menu anymore to open a program. If I want to start Microsoft Word for example, I simply press the Windows Logo key on my keyboard, which opens the START MENU, then start typing W-O-R-D, there at the top is “Microsoft Office Word 2007” ready to open.

Even when opening a file, I no longer go all the way to the DOCUMENTS folder, I use the same method, WINDOWS LOGO KEY, START TYPING...RESULTS.

The same SEARCH FEATURE is included in the WINDOWS MEDIA PLAYER for finding songs and videos. I found that if I type a FOUR CHARACTER NUMBER then the Media Player will “assume” that it is a YEAR (1972 for example) and Media Player will display all songs produced in that year. It’s soooo cool!