

Stupid Free Microsoft Programs

In case you didn't know it, Microsoft offers several "freebie" software programs. Here's a small list of some of my favourite FREE Microsoft software.

Microsoft PhotoStory 3: I've been using their free program Microsoft Photostory 3 for a few years now. I love it; it takes your photos and creates a great zooming slideshow with a music track playing during your presentation. It makes great picture presentations EASY. www.microsoft.com/downloads

Microsoft Security Essentials: This is my FREE antivirus program from Microsoft. I was sceptical at first, but I've been running it on my laptop for several months now. No virus's, no spyware, no huge slow-down on my computer resources. I'm both surprised and impressed. www.microsoft.com/downloads

Below are a few more FREE Microsoft software programs that I haven't tried yet but look pretty cool:

Windows SteadyState: This program is for computers in a public place. You configure the computer and lock it down. Users do whatever they want to on the computer including crashing the system or even infecting it with a virus. When they are done, you can reset the system just like the day you configured it and locked it down. www.microsoft.com/downloads

WorldWide Telescope: From Microsoft Research brings together the imagery from the Hubble Space Telescope and 10 earthbound telescopes. The images are stitched together allowing you to pan around outer space exploration right from your computer. www.worldwidetelescope.org.

Paint.NET: Paint.NET is a good image and photo editing product offered as a FREE download. It's fully featured including layers, special effects, unlimited undo, and support for tons of image formats. If you want PhotoShop but have a Paintbrush budget, go to www.getpaint.net.

Finally...a FREE GAME...ServerQuest II: In the vintage game style, like King's Quest or Leisure Suit Larry, Microsoft is offering for free ServerQuest II. It has the pixelated graphics like the old games and the same cheesy humour, aimed at the IT professionals and computer nerds alike. The game runs in your browser, I've looked at it for a minute and it actually looks intriguing. Try it at www.microsoft.com/click/serverquest.